WEST INDIA COLONIES AND MAURITIUS.

IMMIGRATION.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 25 February 1859;—*for*,

"COPIES or EXTRACTS of any CORRESPONDENCE between the Colonial Office and the Governors of the WEST INDIAN COLONIES and the MAURITIUS, with respect to the Condition of the LABOURING POPULATION of such Colonies, both Native and Immigrant, and the Supply of Labour:"

"And, of all COLONIAL ACTS or ORDINANCES, regulating the Condition of IMPORTED LABOURERS, at present in force, and not already laid before Parliament."

Colonial Office, 9 June 1859.

CARNARVON.

(*Mr. Chichester Fortescue.*)

PART I.

BRITISH GUIANA.—JAMAICA.—TRINIDAD.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*, 11 *June* 1859.

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SCHEDULE.

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(The Right Honourable H. LABOUCHERE, M. P.; The Right Honourable Lord STANLEY, M. P.; and The Right Honourable Sir E. B. LYTTON, Bart., M. P.)

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PART I.

COPIES or EXTRACTS of any CORRESPONDENCE between the Colonial Office and the Governors of the West Indian Colonies and the *Mauritius*, with respect to the Condition of the LABOURING POPULATION of such Colonies, both Native and Immigrant, and the Supply of Labour: and, of all COLONIAL ACTS or ORDINANCES, regulating the Condition of IMPORTED LABOURERS, at present in force.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Despatches from the Governor.

— No. 1.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 1.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
6 August 1857.

(No. 4.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 6 August 1857.
(Received, 31 August 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 325, 11 September 1857, page 115.)

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the reports of the Immigration Agent General and the health officer, on the immigrants per barque "Sylph," which arrived on the 26th ultimo, after 20 days' passage from Madeira.

1.
2.
3.

It is only necessary to remark, that this is the first importation of labourers from Madeira since the adoption of the resolution of the Combined Court to appropriate the sum of 35,000 dollars "for the introduction of able-bodied Portuguese labourers from Madeira, the Azores, and the Canary Islands, who have never before been resident in this colony, and who are under 40 years of age:" and that, as the master was unprovided with satisfactory evidence as to their being new immigrants, owing, as was alleged, to the vessel having sailed prior to the receipt in Madeira of the Ordinance giving effect to the resolution, I thought it right to consult the Court of Policy before issuing orders for the payment of bounty.

The Court considered that it would be inexpedient to withhold payment under the circumstances, and I therefore sanctioned the disbursement, which I hope will be approved. Instructions will be forwarded to the agent by this mail, to be careful to transmit the necessary vouchers in any succeeding case.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
27 July 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival of the British barque "Sylph," of 230 tons, after a passage of 20 days from Madeira, with

Men	14
Women	14
Boys	7
Girls	6
Infants	2
TOTAL	43

equal to 32 adults. This is the first arrival since the passing of Ordinance 10 of 1857; and, as the vessel has no list signed by the emigration agent, Madeira, and many of the

BRITISH GUIANA.

people do not answer to the names on the supercargo's list, I am at a loss how to proceed in reference to the payment of bounty. I have no reason to believe that the people presented to me have been in the colony before, but on the other hand I have no proof whatever to the contrary; and as it must be evident that I can have no means of identifying the fresh arrivals under so loose a system, I would respectfully suggest to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that notice should be immediately sent to Madeira to notify that no bounties would be paid except on lists signed by the agent, which lists should specify whether the emigrants are leaving that island for the first time or not.

In respect to the "Sylph," and those leaving Madeira previous to the arrival of the notice, I would propose that the captain's list should be accepted, as otherwise a check might be put to the renewed introduction of a very valuable class of labourers.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. G. Austin*, I. A. G.

The Honourable W. B. Wolseley,
Acting Government Secretary.

Encl. 2, in No. 1.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
29 July 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that there is no difficulty whatever in delaying the payment of the bounty for the immigrants per "Sylph," until the sense of the Court of Policy can be taken in reference to the matter.

One of the immigrants is acknowledged to be over 40 years of age, and cannot of course be paid for, but in respect to the others there is no doubt whatever of their being within the limit fixed by the Legislature.

As the agent at Madeira is in a position to ascertain whether the people are under age, or have previously emigrated to this colony, I see no difficulty in carrying out the Ordinance if he does his duty, and furnishes each captain with a list of the people embarked, for the guidance of this department.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. G. Austin*, I. A. G.

The Honourable W. B. Wolseley,
Acting Government Secretary.

Encl. 3, in No. 1.

Enclosure 3, in No. 1.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara, 27 July 1857.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Barque "Sylph," which arrived here on the 26th instant, 20 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name - William Henderson.
Surgeon's name - Henry Craufurd Rodriguez.
Quarantine - None recommended.

Number of crew - - - - - 9
Registered tonnage - - - - 230
Passengers' deck, 72 feet by 18 feet; 6½ feet in height.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	TOTAL.
Embarked on the 5th July 1857.	14	14	7	6	1	1	43
Died on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Born on the voyage - -	—	—	—		—	—	—
Arrived in port - - -	14	14	7	6	1	1	43
For hospital - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
For immediate distribution -	14	14	7	6	1	1	43

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked - 43
Total number sick, as per general abstract - —
Total number of deaths - - - - - —
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked —
Per centage of deaths to cases of sickness - —
Daily average of people sick , per-centage thereof - - - - - —
Highest number sick in any one day - —
Lowest number sick in any one day - - —

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

No sickness during the voyage. People arrive in good health. Provisions and water very good. Vessel comfortably fitted up. Hold has three hatches.

John M. Johnstone,
Health Officer.

P. S.—Several pay their own passage. Cabin, 21 feet by 18 feet.

— No. 2. —

(No. 14.)

No. 2.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
7 Sept. 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 7 September 1857.
(Received, 2 October 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 340, 17 October 1857, page 115.)

I THOUGHT it right to communicate for the information of the Court of Policy, the substance of your Despatch, No. 286 of the 23d July last, enclosing to me the report of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, upon the mortality which had occurred amongst the immigrants from Calcutta, ex ship "Merchantman."

The Court expressed themselves satisfied with the course proposed to be adopted with the view of ascertaining the causes which led to so deplorable a result; but they requested me to bring to your especial notice, as I have now the honour most respectfully to do, the extreme importance of directing the inquiries of the Commissioners to the two points of the changes introduced into the dietary of the immigrants, and the apparently useless kind of inspection professed to be made of them by the surgeons before embarkation, and upon which, nevertheless, they sign certificates that the people are in good health and capable of undergoing the voyage when delivered to them.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

— No. 3. —

(No. 24.)

No. 3.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
5 October 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 5 October 1857.
(Received, 31 October 1857.)

Sir,

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Despatch, No. 271 of the 12th of June,* I have herewith the honour to enclose schedules of the rates of wages paid to Indian immigrant labourers in this colony, and of the cost of the principal articles consumed by that class of our population.

* *Vide* Papers presented by Command, Aug. 1857, p. 132.

The first-mentioned document is compiled from information obtained in reference to different parts of the colony; the second is furnished by a highly respectable mercantile house who pay especial attention to that branch of their trade.

1.
2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

Encl. 1, in No. 3.

SCHEDULE of WAGES paid to Indian Immigrants, *British Guiana*, October 1857.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK.	Men.	Women.	Children.
	cts.	*cts.*	*cts.*
Weeding and moulding, per task of 60 rods - -	32	32	—
Shovel ploughing - ditto 30 „ - -	40	—	—
Planting canes - - ditto 60 „ - -	48	—	—
Supplying - - ditto 60 „ - -	32	—	—
Digging drains - - ditto 16 „ - -	32	—	—
Throwing canes at cane-carrier when grinding, per day	32	—	—
Working megass boxes, per day - - - -	40	—	—
Potting sugar, shipping produce, jobbing about buildings, per day.	32	—	—
Boiling sugar, per day - - - - - -	40	—	—
Pumping sugar in loft, per day - - - -	40	—	—
Relieving fields, per task of 60 rods - - -	- -	32	—
Thrashing canes ditto 60 „ - - - -	- -	32	—
Washing buildings, weeding and cleaning about mill-yard, potting sugar, &c., per day.	- -	24	—
Picking and transporting cane plants, acting as water-carriers in the field, carrying dry megass, cleaning around buildings, &c., per day.	- -	- -	16
Spreading broken bricks on the public road, per day	- -	- -	16

A task is such as can be performed in from 5 to 7½ hours, according to the strength of the labourer.

Encl. 2, in No. 3.

Enclosure 2, in No. 3.

MEMORANDUM of the Cost of the Chief Articles purchased by Indian Immigrants.

	Dols.	*cts.*
White rice, per bag of 160 lbs. - - - -	6	—
Yellow rice „ „ - - - -	4	72
Dholl - „ „ - - - 4½ at	5	—
Churah - „ 80 lbs. - - - -	3	48
Gram - „ 160 lbs. - - - -	4	—
Cocoanut oil, per gallon - - - - -	1	50
Mustard oil „ - - - - -	1	50
Goorackoo, per lb. - - - - - -	—	16
Tamarinds „ - - - - - -		6
Jeera „ - - - - - -	—	16
Daneirau „ - - - - - -	—	16
Turmeric „ - - - - - -	—	16
Chillies „ - - - - - -	—	6
Gunga „ - - - - - -	—	80
Ghee „ - - - - - -	—	32

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 4.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
5 October 1857.

— No. 4. —

(No. 25.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

Government House, Demerara,
5 October 1857.

Sir, (Received, 31 October 1857.)

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual returns from the Acting Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer, of the arrival of the barque "Maria Adelaide," in 30 days from Madeira, with 133 immigrants, all, with the exception of two sent to hospital, in good health. 1. 2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 4. Encl. 1, in No. 4.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
30 September 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the arrival, on the 26th instant, of the barque "Maria Adelaide," from Madeira, with 133 emigrants, say—

Men	65
Women	43
Boys	10
Girls	7
Infants	8
Total	133

equal to 116½ statute adults.

Of these, 34 have paid their own passage, 8 are infants, and 91 claim free passage under Ordinance 10 of 1857; but as of this number two have been in the colony before, and two are above 40 years of age, I have declined to include them in the usual certificate, which I have issued for only 86, or 79 statute adults.

I annex a statement, giving full particulars.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting Immigration Agent General.

The Hon. J. G. Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.
Arrived	65	43	10	7	8	133
Paid their passage	21	10	2	1	–	34
Claiming passage	44	33	8	6	8	99
Been in the colony before	1	1	–	–	–	2
	43	32	8	6	8	97
Over 40 years of age	2	1	–	–	–	3
Infants	–	–	–	–	8	–
Certificate issued for	41	31	8	6	–	86

Or 79 statute adults.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Encl. 2, in No. 4.

Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara, 29 September 1857.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Barque "Maria Adelaide," which arrived here on the 26th instant, 30 days from *Madeira*.

Master's name - - José Domingé.	Number of crew - - - - 12
Surgeon's name - - Pedro de Camera.	Registered tonnage - - - - 207
Quarantine, none recommended.	Passengers' deck feet by feet.

NUMERAL LIST.

Emigrants.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		Total.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the - -	65	43	10	7	4	4	133
Died on the voyage - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Born on the voyage - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Arrived in port - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
For hospital - - - -	- -	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	2
For immediate distribution -	65	41	10	7	4	4	131

HOSPITAL LIST.

Name.	Age.		Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	General Treatment.
	M.	F.			
Antonia d'Andradé -	–	20	Fever - - -	12	Blister and purges.
Maria de Jesus - -	–	28	- ditto - - -	8	Purgatives.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked - 133	Daily average of people sick , per-centage thereof - - - - - - - - –
Total number of sick, as per general abstract 2	Highest number sick in any one day - 2
Total number of deaths - - - - - –	Lowest number ditto - ditto - - –
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked –	
Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness –	

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

People arrive in good condition. Provisions and water very good. Vessel clean and comfortably fitted up.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone,*
Health Officer.

— No. 5. —

(No. 30.)

No. 5.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
10 October 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

Government House, Demerara, 10 October 1857.
(Received, 31 October 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 365, 20 December 1857, page 121.)

I HAVE the honour to enclose a report from the Acting Immigration Agent General, of the sailing of the "Hamilla Mitchell," from this port on the 24th ultimo, with a total of 277 Indian immigrants returning to Calcutta.

2. Having inspected the vessel on the day previous to her departure, I can bear testimony to the cheerful and healthy appearance of the people; and I was favourably impressed by the deportment of the commander, surgeon, and other officers.

3. In so comparatively small a vessel, it is of course difficult to make adequate provision for the entire seclusion of the sick. The arrangements decided on seemed to me to be unexceptionable under the circumstances; and they appeared to be entirely satisfactory to the people themselves. Upon this subject I beg to refer to the enclosed copy of a letter from the Acting Government Secretary.

4. With regard to the privies, I do not think that any better plan could be adopted, since by it the people are completely sheltered under the bulwarks, while all offensive matters are thrown clear of the ship; and there ought not to be the slightest difficulty in preserving thorough cleanliness.

5. It will be observed, that the lists of medicines and stores inserted in the charterparty require some modification, as we were obliged to put more salt-fish on board, and to supply an indispensable article which had been omitted altogether, namely, cocoa-nut oil for lubricating the bodies of the immigrants, at an expense to the colony of 144 dollars; while some extra medical appliances were laid in at the expense of the ship.

6. I take leave to draw your attention to the very large amounts carried home by these people, of whom the majority have been little more than five years resident in the colony; the sum paid into the Commissariat Chest on their account being $28,959:98, equal to 6,033 *l.* 6 *s.* 7 *d.*, for which the receipt of the Assistant Commissary General has been forwarded to the Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta.

7. It will thus be seen that within the last 12 months 855 immigrants have been sent back to India with an aggregate amount of savings of $73,165:87, or 15,242 *l.* 17 *s.* 9½ *d.* sterling.

8. The allusion in the report to the fact of 24 children born in the colony being included in this shipment, induces me to trouble you with a question to which my attention was directed at a meeting of the Court of Policy very soon after my assumption of the Government, namely, whether the colony is properly chargeable with the obligation to provide passages to India for such persons? I was informed that the subject had been mooted during the discussions in the last session of the Combined Court, and it was understood that the Governor would bring it to your notice. I am unaware whether he has done so, and therefore trust to be excused from submitting it for your consideration.

9. I have further to enclose communications from the Acting Immigration Agent General to the Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta, and also to Mr. Caird, advising them of the embarkation of these people, and transmitting to them detailed lists of the returning immigrants with all particulars necessary to their identification.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

Encl. 1, in No. 5.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
30 September 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that the ship "Hamilla Mitchell," Captain Lawson, sailed this day for Calcutta with—

Men	209
Women	40
Boys	10
Girls	10
Infants	8
TOTAL	277

equal to 259 statute adults.

The emigrants were all inspected in my presence on the 19th instant by the surgeon superintendent of the "Hamilla Mitchell," and the health officer of this port, and were all passed as fit for the voyage, with only one exception, a leper, whom apart from all liability to contagion, they considered too weak to undergo the voyage. I herewith enclose the certificate of the surgeon superintendent and health officer. As customary, the stores were inspected by an officer of the customs and myself, accompanied by the surgeon superintendent of the ship and six of the emigrants.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

Every article mentioned in the charter party having been exhibited and fairly tested as to its quantity and quality, I did not deem it necessary to take samples for the agent in Calcutta; the emigrants having moreover examined everything and expressed themselves well satisfied. They did not seem to think the quantity of salt-fish allotted to them by the charterparty sufficient, and I obtained the sanction of his Excellency to supplying them with an extra quantity, viz., three drums of salt-fish weighing 336 lbs., 24 dollars. No cocoa-nut oil was provided for in the charterparty, and being an article indispensable to the cooly I was also authorised to furnish the emigrants with 80 gallons of cocoa-nut oil, at a cost of 120 dollars.

The surgeon having expressed his little faith in the use of preserved milk, I allowed, as will be seen by the accompanying list of stores signed by Captain Lawson, four milch goats to be substituted for four sheep.

Sub-Enclosure 2.

In respect to the water, the ship being bound by her charter to touch at the Cape, I did not consider it necessary to press for a supply beyond 100 days; although I am aware that there was water on board for a considerably longer period.

With the exception of one poor cooly for whom clothing has been purchased at the expense of the colony, each emigrant has been furnished at his own expense with warm clothing, say,

Each man, 2 blankets, shirt, pair of trowsers, and cap, $ 5 :50.
Each woman, 2 blankets, 1 petticoat, 1 wrapper and a dhooty, $ 5 : 50.
Each boy, 1 blanket, 1 shirt, 1 pair trowsers, 1 cap, $ 3 : 13.
Each girl, 1 blanket, 1 petticoat, 1 wrapper, $ 2 : 17.

The clothing on this occasion is somewhat higher than it has yet been, but this is chiefly to be ascribed to the superiority of the blankets.

The clothing was delivered into the care of Dr. Dyer, with special instructions from me that the warmer part of it should be reserved for use during the cold weather.

Sub-Enclosure 3.

I beg to enclose a copy of my letter to the surgeon superintendent respecting his duties during the voyage.

An application was made by this officer for certain medicines, of which no mention was made in the charter, and as he was supported by the health officer of this port in regard to their need, I felt it my duty to call upon Captain Lawson to provide himself with them, which he has done in accordance with the list herewith enclosed.

Sub-Enclosure 4.

As this is not the first instance in which the surgeons have applied for medicines unprovided for by the charterparty, and as they might not always be as moderate as Dr. Dyer, it would not seem unadvisable that the nature of the medicines to be shipped be not totally determined upon in England, until the appointment of the surgeon superintendent, who might then give his certificate, and thereby obviate any subsequent requisition.

A spacious and fairly ventilated hospital for the accommodation of the sick and isolation of the sexes, has been erected about midships of the lower deck of the "Hamilla Mitchell," that being the place fixed upon, as the fittest, both by the surgeon superintendent and the health officer. As, however, the emigrants are all in health and good spirits, I am in hope that there will be but little use for it.

It being the opinion of the Board appointed to inquire into the causes of the heavy mortality among the emigrants bound to this part from India last season, that much sickness might be obviated by the privies being so erected as to be outside of the ship, where it could be done with safety, I should have endeavoured to carry out their views in regard to the "Hamilla Mitchell," but being a small ship, it could not have been easily done. Those however which Captain Lawson has put up, will not only attain the object which the Board had in view, namely, the removal from the ship of any unwholesome smell, but can in no possible way endanger the safety of the emigrants.

A list

BRITISH GUIANA.

A list giving the name of each emigrant, that of his or her father, the age, sex, height, bodily marks, date of introduction into the colony, ship of import and number therein, also the amount of money deposited, has been handed by me to the surgeon superintendent, and a duplicate given into his care for the emigration agent, to whom I shall forward, as well as to the protector of emigrants, extra copies by this mail.

The savings of the return coolies per "Hamilla Mitchell" amount to the astonishing sum of $28,059: 98, being nearly an excess of 4,000 dollars over any sum yet carried away by a similar number of coolies.

One of the emigrants, a driver on the Arabian coast, and who kept a shop, takes away 3,122 dollars;* another man, by similar means, from the county of Berbice, has 1,900 dollars;† and a driver of one of the estates on the east coast, who also kept a shop, carries with him $2,456: 08*.‡

4 2.

As in preceding instances, the earnings of the return coolies per "Hamilla Mitchell" have been lodged with the Colonial receiver, to be by that officer paid into the Commissariat for transmission to India.

Each emigrant has been furnished by me with a receipt from the Colonial receiver, countersigned by myself, for the amount he or she may be entitled to claim, and these vouchers they handed in my presence on board ship into the safe custody of the surgeon superintendent.

Although the emigrants were embarked on the 21st instant, the "Hamilla Mitchell" did not sail until the 24th, Captain Lawson not being able to supply himself until then with his full quantity of fresh vegetables.

For the information of his Excellency and for transmission to India, I beg to enclose communications addressed by me to the emigration agent and protector of emigrants at Calcutta.

* Came to the colony in 1846.
† Came to the colony in 1848.
‡ Came to the colony in 1847.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting Immigration Agent.

The Hon. J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

We hereby certify that the coolie immigrants proposed for back passage per ship "Hamilla Mitchell," namely, 210 men, 40 women, 10 boys, 10 girls, and 8 infants, were submitted for our inspection by the Acting Immigration Agent General, and that we found them all in sound bodily health and well able to bear the fatigue of the voyage, except one man (a leper), whom we pronounce unfit to go, his strength not being equal to the voyage.

John M. Johnstone, Health Officer.
John E. Dyer, Surgeon Superintendent,
"Hamilla Mitchell."

Demerara, 21 September 1857.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

Stores Required for 260 Coolies per Ship "Hamilla Mitchell" to *Calcutta*, for 196 days.

Rice, 24 oz.	Peas, 4 oz.	Ghee, 1 oz.	Salt, 1 oz.	Tamarind Preserve, 2 oz.	Treacle, 2 oz.	Tobacco, ½ oz.	Turmeric, 1 dr.	Onions, 1 dr.	Chillies, ½ dr.	Black Pepper, 2 dr.	Mustard Seed, ½ dr.	Coriander Seed, 2 dr.	Garlic, 1 dr.	Biscuits, 2 lbs.	Salt Fish, 2 oz.	Sugar, 3 oz.	Fresh Vegetables.
lbs.	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*	*lbs.*
76,440	12,740	3,185	3,185	6,370	6,370	1,592½	199	199	99½	398	99½	398	199	7,280	455	682½	5,460

Additional Supplies for the Voyage.

Water.	Firewood.	Lime Juice.	Rum, Gallons.	Port Wine.	Flour.	Preserved Milk.	Tea.	Lamps or Lanterns.	Cabooses.	Iron Boilers.	Hatchets for Cutting Wood.	Curry Stones.	Biscuit.	Iron Ladles.	Live Sheep.	Remark.
Gal.	*lbs.*	*Doz.*	*Rum or Brandy.*	*Doz.*	*Brls.*	*Doz. Pints.*	*lbs.*						*Maunds.*			
26,000	101,920	15 7/12	130	2⅔	5	31⅙	15⅗	2	2	2	2	2	21	2	16	Four milch goats substituted for as many sheep.

I hereby certify that the above stores (for 260 coolies per charterparty) have been duly shipped and are now on board the vessel "Hamilla Mitchell."

Demerara, 21 September 1857.

John Lawson, Master.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sub-Enclosure 3, to Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
Demerara, 21 September 1857

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a list of the passengers passed by you and the health officer of this port for embarkation, per "Hamilla Mitchell" for Calcutta.

By this list you will perceive that for the more easy identification of the parties (a point the more essential where such large sums have to be distributed in India), I have given of every emigrant the name of his or her father, the age, sex, height, bodily marks, date of introduction into this colony, vessel by which introduced, and number therein, and lastly, the amounts lodged with the Colonial receiver for distribution in India.

With regard to the ages, they are all calculated (with the exception of those under ten) by the original list forwarded to this office at the time of their introduction into the colony. As the Land and Emigration Commissioners have no doubt placed in your hands a copy of the charterparty, it is unnecessary for me to do so, or to direct your attention to the daily issue of provisions; these have you are aware been inspected and approved by yourself, an officer of the Customs, and myself, and that there may be no doubt in your mind as to their sufficiency, I enclose a statement of stores signed by Captain Lawson.

In regard to the number of meals it has been customary I believe to have only one, but it would appear to me advisable that arrangements should be made for two, the more especially as the people have been accustomed to them in the colony.

The bad habit of eating the food half cooked ought to be guarded against, and in bad weather the issue of provisions should be special, in order to remove the possibility of indigestible food.

Each emigrant has, in addition to his own clothing, been furnished at his own expense with the following warm articles:

Each man, two blankets, shirt, trousers and cap.
Each woman, two blankets, wrapper, petticoat and dhotee.
Each boy, one blanket, shirt, trousers and cap.
Each girl, one blanket, wrapper and petticoat.

You will be good enough to deliver but one blanket at starting, delaying the issue of the other and the warm clothes until you consider the weather sufficiently cold to render them serviceable.

In respect to the hospital, you are no doubt fully alive to the importance of its being at all times ready for the reception of the sick and isolation of the sexes.

In order to assist you in the duties connected with this hospital, I have appointed as nurse one of the emigrants who seems an intelligent man, and from his knowledge of English, will, I have no doubt, prove very useful.

With a view to the maintenance of order and cleanliness I have also appointed five sirdars and six cooks, the former and the nurse to receive six dollars, and the latter five dollars.

Should any of them misbehave, you are at liberty to disrate them and appoint others in their room.

Personal cleanliness, bathing, constant exercise, and amusement are all equally important and indispensable to secure the health of the emigrants under your charge.

These points as well as a strict regard to ventilation will, I do not doubt, meet with your earnest attention.

Care should be taken that the emigrants be not exposed to heavy dews, or sleep on deck, unless well wrapped up, for although the Indian emigrant is capable of bearing great heat, he cannot endure cold.

I would lastly call your attention to the necessity of having lights burning below at night to check anything like disorder, or undetected cases of sickness, also to fix hours for rising and retiring, for the issue of provisions and water, for the taking of meals, &c.; and once a regular and active system of habits has been established, I apprehend you will have but little trouble.

Each person is in possession of a receipt from the Colonial receiver of this colony, counter signed by myself, and how the money is to be disposed of noted on the same, you will therefore be good enough to obtain these vouchers or any other property belonging to those who may die during the voyage.

As, however, your people appear without exception to be in excellent health and good spirits, I am in hopes that the happiest results will follow; and wishing yourself and charge a successful and pleasant voyage to Calcutta.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams*,
Acting Immigration Agent General.

Dr. E. Dyer, Surgeon Superintendent,
Ship "Hamilla Mitchell."

P. S.—I shall be glad to hear from you from the Cape, as well as from Calcutta, respecting the success of your voyage, and how far you consider the plan of the privies on board the "Hamilla Mitchell" advantageous, as this is a feature worthy of notice in the conveying of cooly emigrants.

Sub-Enclosure 4, to Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

Potassæ Chloratis - - - - - - -	℥ viij.
Acid, Sulphuric, dil. - - - - - -	℥ xij.
Acid, Hydrocyanic, dil. - - - - - -	℞ ℥ i.
Liq. Potassæ Arsenit - - - - - -	℥ ij.
Hyd. Bichloridi - - - - - - -	ʒ ij.
Plumbi Acetatis - - - - - - -	℥ iv.
Acidi Hydrochlorici - - - - - -	ℍ x.

for fumigation.

The above extra medicines required for the ship "Hamilla Mitchell."

John E. Dyer,
Surgeon Superintendent.

The above have been supplied according to my requisition.

J. E. D.

Enclosure 2, in No. 5.

Encl. 2, in No. 5.

Sir, 5 October, 1857.

In reference to that portion of the Acting Immigration Agent General's letter referring to the hospital arrangements on board the "Hamilla Mitchell," I think it right to point out to your Excellency, that the plan recommended by myself and the other Commissioners of Inquiry, and acted on with regard to the "Empress Eugenie" and "Blue Jacket," of having an hospital on deck where the sick could be isolated has not been carried out.

Mr. Williams has made the best possible arrangements on the passengers' deck considering the size of the ship and the necessity the captain was under of giving up a portion of the poop to his own crew, but I would suggest to your Excellency the importance of endeavouring to secure on all future occasions vessels of such a class as will admit of deck hospitals; or if this is not considered necessary at home, the completion of such hospital arrangements under the authority of the Land and Emigration Commissioners as will remove the responsibility from those whose hands are tied, as in the case of the "Hamilla Mitchell."

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Gardiner Austin,*
Acting Government Secretary.

His Excellency William Walker, Esq.
Lieutenant Governor.

— No. 6. —

(No. 31.)

No. 6.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 10 October 1857.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara,
10 October 1857.
(Received, 31 October 1857.)

Sir, Answered, No. 358, 1 December 1857, p. 118.)

A communication has been received in this colony from a gentleman connected with the Virgin Islands, representing, that in consequence of the distress experienced by the agricultural population there, from the want of remunerative employment, there exists a prevalent desire to emigrate provided the means were afforded them.

Some persons interested in estates here would willingly at once make arrangements for despatching suitable vessels to Tortola, but a doubt seems to exist as to whether contracts made with labourers there could be legally enforced on their arrival in this colony.

By the Order in Council of the 7th September 1838, regulating contracts of service, it was enacted, that no such contract should be of any force or effect unless made within the limits of the colony in which it was to be performed. But by a subsequent Order in Council, made in 1843 and published in 1846, that provision was expressly modified in regard to contracts to be made with free negroes in the United States.

Again, the Ordinance No. 2 of 1848, contains a clause enacting, that contracts entered into elsewhere than within the limits of this colony with any inhabitant of the continent and islands of Europe, and of the continent and islands of America, Sect. 12.

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of the Azores, of Madeira, &c. &c., for any period not exceeding three years from the date of his landing, shall be valid and in force for the period therein mentioned.

That Ordinance was repealed by Ordinance No. 2 of 1853, with the special reservation of such parts thereof as related to contracts made in certain places out of the limits of the colony.

By Ordinance No. 7 of 1854, it is enacted, that, unless by previous permission of Her Majesty's Government, no valid contract of service can be entered into with any inhabitant of India or Africa, or of any African island, if of the negro race, except within the limits of this colony.

It seems, therefore, a reasonable inference that no prohibition now exists to private persons entering within the British dominions into contracts of service, which shall be valid and effectual within this colony. But as a Bill is before the Court of Policy, having for its object the amendment of the Immigration Ordinance in certain particulars, the Acting Attorney General proposes to remove all doubts upon the point by introducing a clause to meet the case of such contracts as those above alluded to.

I trust that this course may not be found open to any objection.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

— No. 7. —

No. 7.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 21 Nov. 1857.

(No. 48.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara,
21 November 1857.
(Received, 19 December 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 375, 22 January 1858, p. 131.)

Vide Appendix, No. 6, p. 503.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the usual number of copies of an Ordinance intituled,

"No. 18. An Ordinance to make certain alterations and amendments in the laws relating to immigration and contracts of service."

This Ordinance contains the clause to which allusion was made in my Despatch, No. 31, of the 10th October,* for legalising contracts of service made with persons residing in other British colonies.

* P. 11.

As therein explained, I regard this provision rather as declaratory of what the law actually is than as enacting a new regulation; and in support of this view I beg respectfully to refer to the report of the Solicitor General, by whom the Bill was prepared and carried through; and also to that—upon this special point—of the Attorney General, whose attention I called to the question.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

— No. 8. —

No. 8.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 8 December 1858.

(No. 56.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara,
8 December 1857.
(Received, 1 January 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith the report of the Acting Immigration Agent General, and of the Health Officer, of the arrival of the brigantine "Matilda Adelaide" from Madeira, with 22 immigrants.

1.
2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

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Enclosure 1, in No. 8.

Encl. 1, in No. 8.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
7 December 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the arrival on the 30th ultimo, of the brigantine "Matilda Adelaide," with 22 immigrants.

Men	8
Women	9
Boys	3
Girls	1
Infants	1
Total	22

equal to 19 adults.

As they are entitled to be paid for by the colony, in terms of Ordinance 10, of 1857, I have issued the usual certificate for the payment of the bounty.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting Immigration Agent General.

The Honourable J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 8.

Encl. 2, in No. 8

Port of Georgetown, Demerara,
9 December 1857.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Brigantine "Matilda Adelaide," which arrived here on the 29th ultimo, 30 days from *Madeira*, having touched at nowhere.

Master's name, Anto. Alex. Rodriguez.
Surgeon's name, none.
Quarantine, none.

Number of crew - - - - - 10
Registered tonnage - - - - 172
Passengers' deck, 15 feet by 22 feet; 6 feet high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	TOTAL.
Embarked on the	8	9	3	1	1	-	22
Died on the voyage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Born on the voyage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arrived in port	8	9	3	1	1	-	22
For hospital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
For immediate distribution	8	9	3	1	1	-	22

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	22	Per-centage of deaths in cases of sickness	-
Total number sick, as per general abstract	-	Daily average of people sick, per-centage thereof	-
Total number of deaths	-	Highest number sick in any one day	-
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	-	Lowest number ditto - ditto	-

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

No sickness during the voyage. Provisions and water good. Vessel comfortably fitted up.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone,* Health Officer.

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No. 9.
Lieut.-Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
19 December 1857.

— No. 9. —

(No. 61.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara,
19 December 1857.
(Received, 21 January 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the reports of the Acting Immigration Agent General and of the Health Officer of the arrival, on the 15th instant, of the barque "Christina," in 29 days from Madeira, with 131 immigrants, all well.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Encl. 1, in No. 9.

Enclosure 1, in No. 9.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
16 December 1857.

Sir,

IN the absence of the Acting Immigration Agent General, I have the honour to report to you the arrival, on yesterday morning, of the Portuguese barque "Christina," with immigrants from Madeira, after a somewhat rough passage of 29 days.

Proceeding on board as soon as possible, I mustered the people, and comparing their names with the immigration list forwarded to this office, and with the consignee's private list of passengers (which I insisted on being produced), I found the numbers to be respectively as follow:

Passengers:		Immigrants:	
Men	17	Men	40
Women	11	Women	25
Boys	6	Boys	9
Girls	5	Girls	7
Infants	5	Infants	6

Of whom—

Passengers:		Immigrants:	
Man	1	Man	1
Woman	1	Women	2
Boy	1		

had been in the colony before.

And 11 men, 7 women, 4 boys, 5 girls, 4 infants, passengers, and 1 immigant, paid their own passage: Leaving—

Passengers:			
Men	5	Boy	1
Women	3	Infant	1

Immigrants:

Men	38
Women	23
Boys	9
Girls	7
Infants	6

Or—

Men	43
Women	26
Boys	10
Girls	7
Infants	7
Total	93 souls.

or 77½ statute adults, to be paid for by the colony. These all come within the provisions of Ordinance 10, 1857, and I therefore propose issuing the usual certificates for that number, unless previously instructed to the contrary.

I beg

I beg to observe with regard to the passengers, for whom I thus take the liberty of recommending that bounty be paid, that they are all of the labouring class, evidently too poor to pay their own passage, which they merely seem to have promised doing under an impression that they could not otherwise get here.

Exclusive of the numbers above stated, four passengers and five immigrants were reported to have gone ashore previous to my boarding; of those therefore (not having appeared before me) I refused to take cognizance, telling the consignee and captain that if people were permitted to leave the vessel without authority, it must be at their proper risk.

I should perhaps add that one of the immigrants was above the age of 40, but being one of a family of seven, I considered myself justified in classing her for bounty.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. M. Gallagher,*
Acting Sub Agent of Immigration.

The Honourable J. G. Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 9.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara, 16 December 1857. Encl. 2, in No. 9.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Barque "Christina," which arrived here on the 15th instant, 29 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, M. Xavier.	Number of crew - - - - - 11
Surgeon's name, Re De Freitas.	Registered tonnage - - - - 182
Quarantine, none recommended.	Passengers' deck, feet by feet.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 15th November 1857 - - -	57	36	15	12	6	5	131
Died on the voyage - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Born on the voyage - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Arrived in port - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	131
For hospital - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
For immediate distribution	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	131

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked - 131	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness –
Total number sick, as per general abstract –	Daily average of people sick , per-centage thereof - - - - - - –
Total number of deaths - - - - - –	Highest number sick in any one day - –
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked - - - - - - - –	Lowest number ditto - ditto - - - –

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

No sickness during the voyage. People arrive in good health. Provisions and water very good. Vessel clean and roomy.

John M. Johnstone, Health Officer.

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— No. 10. —

No. 10.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
22 January 1858.

(No. 10.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara,
22 January 1858.
(Received 18 February 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith the usual reports of the Acting Immigration Agent General and of the Health Officer of the arrival, on the 17th instant, of the barque "Planter," from the Cape de Verd Islands, bringing only four immigrants, namely, two men and two boys.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Encl. 1, in No. 10.

Enclosure 1, in No. 10.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
21 January 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, of the arrival at this port on the 17th instant of the barque "Planter," Captain Job, with four emigrants from Cape de Verdes, viz., two men and two boys.

Messrs. Rose and Duff, the consignees of this vessel, have taken them to one of their own estates, Plantation Haarlem, after entering into the necessary contract, and have received from me the usual certificate for payment of the passage money.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting Immigration Agent General.

The Hon. J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

Encl. 2, in No. 10.

Enclosure 2, in No. 10.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara,
18 January 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Barque "Planter," which arrived here on the 17th instant, 11 days from *Fogo, Cape de Verd Islands.*

Master's name, Captain Job.
Surgeon's name, —— Jones.
Quarantine, none recommended.

Number of crew - - - - - 12
Registered tonnage - - - - 230
Passengers' deck, 60 feet by 20 feet; 6½ feet high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	TOTAL.
Embarked on the -	2	- -	2	- -	- -	- -	4
Died on the voyage - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Born on the voyage - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arrived in port - - - -	2	- -	2	-	- -	- -	4
For hospital - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
For immediate distribution	2	- -	2	- -	- -	- -	4

SUMMARY.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	4	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	–
Total number sick, as per general abstract	–	Daily average of people sick, per-centage thereof	–
Total number of deaths	–	Highest number sick in any one day	–
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	–	Lowest number ditto ditto	–

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

One of the people, viz., Manl. Gaspar, is a delicate-looking man, but declines going to hospital; says he has friends ashore.

Provisions and water good.

Vessel clean and comfortable.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone*, Health Officer.

— No. 11. —

(No. 11.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

No. 11. Lieut. Governor Walker to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 23 January 1858.

Government House, Demerara,
23 January 1858.
(Received, 18 February 1858.)

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit to you an Ordinance, intituled, "No. 2,* An Ordinance to regulate the introduction of Immigrants from Bombay on private account," together with the Report of the Attorney General thereon.

* *Vide* Appendix, No. 7, p. 506.

2. This Ordinance, which it is provided shall not come into operation until Her Majesty's pleasure be known, has been passed in conformity with the intimation in your Despatch, No. 294† of the 31st July last, to the effect that as soon as you should receive an Ordinance, amending Ordinance No. 7 of the year 1854, so as to give effect to the suggestions of the Emigration Commissioners, you would be prepared to recommend the appointment of an emigration agent at Bombay.

† *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 134.

3. It becomes my duty, however, to acquaint you, that while the Ordinance carries out the views of the Court of Policy, as expressed in their Minute of the 8th December 1856, it does not meet the approval of the present elective members, of whom only one was in the Court at that date, in the subjoined particulars.

4. First, It is considered that the importers of immigrants under the contemplated arrangement should be at liberty to employ their own native agents as collectors, although the shipment of the immigrants should take place under the superintendence of the Official Emigration Agent and the Protector of Emigrants at Bombay.

5. Second, It is considered that there is no sufficient check upon the expenses to be incurred in the collection and maintenance of the immigrants.

6. Third, It is considered that the penalty prescribed in the 11th section, if not altogether inoperative, will have the effect of rendering persons in the positions of masters and surgeons of immigrant ships very reluctant to undertake the charge of immigrants to this colony. I annex the copy of a report from the Health Officer of this port, showing the probable effect in practice of the system proposed.

Enclosure.

7. Fourth, It is objected that the placing of coolies imported under private arrangement upon the same footing as those imported under the general arrangement in regard to term of indenture, deprives the individual importer of the advantage to which he ought to be entitled, of having the continued service of the immigrant for the full term of five years.

BRITISH GUIANA.

8. It will, I hope, be understood that I am merely conveying the opinions of the members as expressed in discussion, Mr. Rose and Mr. Roney being the only two who have formally recorded their dissent from the measure.

9. The objection to which I, individually, attach most weight is the third, the regulation alluded to in which would not, I fear, be found to work satisfactorily; while, as to the fourth, I confess I do not see how it would be possible to make any distinction in point of terms of service between the two classes of immigrants.

10. With respect to the steps to be taken to give effect to the Ordinance, if confirmed, I would respectfully observe that it will rest exclusively with gentlemen interested in the colony, but resident in the mother country to adopt them.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Encl. in No. 11.

Enclosure in No. 11.

Sir, Georgetown, Demerara, 23 December 1857.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that after a perusal of the "Draft Bill to regulate the introduction of Immigrants from Bombay on private account," I this morning referred to copies of my official reports on the arrivals of coolies from Calcutta, and have arrived at the conclusion, that clause 12 will operate harshly, if not injuriously, on captains and medical officers in charge of future arrivals. Hitherto, the average per-centage of deaths and cases sent to hospital has been 6·28, so that in a vessel of 300 coolies, with this per-centage, say 10 deaths and 10 sent to hospital, the Colonial Bounty Account will stand thus:—

280 immigrants, in good health, at $1 - - - - - - -	$280
20 ditto sick and dead, at 5 *l.* Ex. $480 - - - -	480

and the captain and doctor will be brought in debt to the colony 200 dollars, instead of receiving any bounty whatever.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John M. Johnstone,*
Health Officer.

The Hon. J. Gardiner Austin,
Actg. Govt. Secretary.

— No. 12. —

No. 12. Lieut. Governor Walker to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 17 February 1858.

(No. 16.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 17 February 1858.

Sir, (Received, 17 March 1858.)

Encl. 1. Encl. 2.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the reports of the Acting Immigration Agent General and of the Health Officer of this port, of the arrival of the Portuguese schooner "Divina Providencia," in 24 days from Madeira, with 12 adult male immigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Encl. 1, in No. 12.

Enclosure 1, in No. 12.

Immigration Agent General's Office,

Sir, 16 February 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the arrival last evening of the Portuguese schooner "Divina Providencia," with immigrants, after a very favourable passage of 24 days, from Madeira.

I proceeded on board this morning, accompanied by the health officer, and found the people, consisting of twelve healthy able-bodied adult males, to be, as far as I could ascertain, within

within the provisions of Ordinance 10, anno 1857, and therefore entitled to free passage I shall consequently issue the usual certificate for that number, unless otherwise instructed.

I beg to enclose a list, and to draw attention to the certificate appended by the emigration agent at Madeira, which, being signed by the captain, prevents any doubt with regard to the number on board to be considered as immigrants.

I have, &c.

The Hon. J. G. Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

(signed) *Denis M. Gallagher,*
Acting Sub Agent Immigration.

Enclosure 2, in No. 12.

Encl. 2 in No. 12.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara,
16 February 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Schooner "Divina Providencia," which arrived here on the 15th instant, 24 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, Sabina José Salgado.	Number of crew - - - - - - 6
Surgeon's name, none.	Registered tonnage - - - - 68
Quarantine, none recommended.	Passengers' deck, 12 feet by 20 feet; 5 feet in height.

NUMERAL LIST.

Emigrants.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		Total.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 22d January 1858 - - -	12	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	12
Died on the voyage - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Born on the voyage - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arrived in port - - -	12	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	12
For hospital - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
For immediate distribution	12	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	12

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked - 12	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness -
Total number sick, as per general abstract -	Daily average of people sick , per-centage thereof - - - - - - -
Total number of deaths - - - - - -	Highest number sick in any one day - -
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked - - - - - - - - -	Lowest number ditto - ditto - - -

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

People arrive in good health and condition.

Provisions and water good.

Vessel's accommodations for immigrants small, but amply sufficient for the number on board.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone,* Health Officer.

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No. 13.
Lieut. Governor Walker to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
17 February 1858.

— No. 13. —

(No. 17.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 17 February 1858.
(Received, 17 March 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 31, 13 May 1858, p. 152.)

1. THE subject of the proportion of passengers to tonnage allowed in vessels bringing immigrants from the East Indies to this colony, which has for some time past been pressed upon the attention of Her Majesty's Government, and, as I learn incidentally from a paragraph in the Report of the Emigration Commissioners, enclosed with your Despatch, No. 372* of the 16th January, still remains under consideration, is of so much importance in many respects that I hope I shall be excused for making a few remarks upon it.

* P. 128.

2. From conversations which I have held with Dr. Shier, who accompanied return immigrants hence to India, proceeding to China, and there taking medical charge of a cargo of Chinese for this colony, I learned that, in his opinion, much of the mortality occurring on board these ships was preventible by comparatively simple means; and he alluded to improved ventilation as one of the most important auxiliaries for the attainment of this highly desirable object.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.
Enclosure 3.

3. I have the honour to submit a memorandum prepared by Dr. Shier, at my request, showing how he would propose to remedy the evil of insufficient ventilation; and it is accompanied by the opinions of the Health Officer of this port, and of the Colonial Civil Engineer, who are both of opinion that the plan might be tried with advantage.

4. Perhaps the Emigration Commissioners may consider the suggestion as at all events worthy of being brought to the notice of practical men, who would be able to report upon its adaptability, and not improbably to suggest improvements in its construction.

5. As illustrative of the results of the different systems adopted by the French and ourselves in conducting this immigration, I beg to subjoin a comparative statement drawn up from authentic materials in my possession.

6. From May 1853 to September 1857, there arrived at Martinique from Pondicherry eight ships, whose aggregate tonnage was 3,665; in them were embarked 3,694 immigrants, or more than one per ton, of whom were landed 3,611, the aggregate mortality being 83, or little more than 10 per ship to an average cargo of 461; the average passage is stated at 84½ days. One other ship is not included, the details not being known, but she is said to have landed 500 people.

7. In 1856 and 1857 we had 12 ships from Calcutta and Madras, whose aggregate tonnage amounted to 11,170. They embarked 4,333 immigrants, of whom they landed 3,855, the aggregate mortality having been 378, equal to 31·50 per ship to an average cargo of 361. The average length of passage was upwards of 94 days.

8. It must be, of course, borne in mind, in estimating the value of these results, that the Calcutta ships are exposed to the disadvantage of a long river passage through a swampy and unhealthy country, during which great sickness and mortality are commonly experienced.

9. Still the facts disclosed with respect to the successful voyages of the French immigrant ships seem to warrant the assumption that there is nothing in the embarkation, in a vessel of given tonnage, of a larger number of human beings than has been hitherto permitted in British ships, necessarily leading to a great proportionate waste of human life.

10. I venture to add, with reference to immigration from Africa, that during the last six months of 1857, two vessels are stated to have arrived at Martinique with 572 labourers, some of whom spoke English, and are believed to have resided in Sierra Leone; while within the last month 370 were received in Cayenne.

Cayenne. This last-mentioned vessel had 33 days' passage, and lost six of her passengers.

11. It is alleged, that very strict prohibitions have been issued in Martinique against publishing any information respecting immigration from Africa; and that one local journal has even been suppressed for inserting an article upon the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 13.

Encl. 1, in No. 13.

THE subject of immigration, in relation to the colony of British Guiana, is of such vital importance, that everything connected with its development must secure the interest of the colonists. Anxious for, and dependent on, a much larger influx of labourers than has hitherto taken place, every one must be interested in effecting this deportation of labourers in the best possible manner, with the greatest economy of life, and with the least amount of personal suffering to the immigrant. Hitherto, with the exception of Portuguese from Madeira, the greatest number of labourers has been obtained from India, from the ports of Calcutta and Madras. But notwithstanding the stringent regulations as to the numbers carried, in relation to the tonnage, the mortality, it is sincerely to be regretted, has considerably exceeded what might have been expected. It is therefore imperative that measures should be taken to diminish this mortality, and render the transportation safer, and at the same time more agreeable to the immigrant.

Having had considerable opportunities of observation in India and China, the writer of these notes ventures to state his views on the subject, in the hope that good may arise, and that it may be seen that the colonists are equally alive to improvements in conducting immigration, as they are dependent on it.

That the mortality on board immigrant ships depends on a variety of causes there can be no doubt. The immigrants imported from India into this colony are from the lowest grades of society, badly fed, often selected with little care, and in many cases of depraved constitution; it is little to be wondered at, though the weakest of them should perish in a three months' voyage; and that, almost from beginning to end within the tropics. But of all the causes which can be adduced for the comparatively great mortality, none can be compared with the defective means of ventilation which are to be found in immigrant ships.

The between-decks of an immigrant ship may be compared to a cellar half sunk under ground. Light and air are admitted as it were from trap doors in the roof, and through these apertures alone can ventilation take place. Efficient ventilation has always been found difficult where atmospheric air cannot be generally introduced on the lowest level of the apartment or chamber, so as to admit of its constant renewal by becoming heated and carried out of the apartment by some suitable aperture on its highest level. Ventilation in immigrant ships is effected by the hatchways, of which there are generally three available. Besides these, there are port-holes, small circular apertures, opened and shut from within, placed a little below the main deck in the walls of the between-decks. These port-holes are, however, very small, and but very seldom used. Most frequently, as I have seen, they are firmly secured, so that the immigrants are unable to open them, even were it safe to do so, In several immigrant ships openings have been made in the decks, and circular metallic funnels inserted for aiding ventilation. Windsails are also in common use, generally in two hatchways, sometimes in all; but with all the means enumerated, the ventilation is very imperfect. In rainy and stormy weather the windsails are removed, and even the hatches are required to be put on and fastened down. This procedure is always found necessary in gales and hurricanes, to which immigrant ships from India are more or less exposed.

That imperfect ventilation is the great cause of disease on board is apparent from the diseases which are of frequent occurrence. From bad ventilation and inactivity, aided by a full diet, to which few had been previously accustomed, the immigrants generally run to fat, so to speak; but that this is an unhealthy action soon becomes apparent. The vital energy becomes impaired, and dropsies, local and general, supervene. The intestinal canal next suffers, and diarrhœa, dysentery, and ulcerated mouth prevail. The mucous membrane of the eyes becomes affected, and ophthalmia, frequently ending in blindness, is the result.

But even the most effective means employed for ventilation, viz., the windsails, are rendered useless by the immigrants, especially during the night. Those lying in the between-decks near the windsails are exposed to a current of cold air constantly blowing on them, and are speedily chilled. If they persist in lying exposed to it, colds, affections of the lungs, and obstinate rheumatism are the invariable results. In some cases tetanus has been the result; several cases of which came under my observation in a port in China, in ships carrying Chinese emigrants to the western coast of South America. To obviate these inconveniences, those lying near the windsails quietly place a cord round the lower end of the windsail, thus relieving themselves of a great discomfort, but inflicting a serious injury on their companions by completely destroying the imperfect ventilation which was provided.

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When we consider the large bulk of atmospheric air necessary for several hundreds of human beings for wholesome respiration, can it be wondered that health should be injured by living so long in a damp, heated, and contaminated atmosphere. I have frequently been in the between-decks in such circumstances, and have observed the thermometer at midnight near the windsails at 68°, and in remote parts of the between-decks at 98°, the immigrants dripping with perspiration. Under these circumstances, I have frequently seen the taper in my hand burning with a sickly flame, such as is to be seen in a coal-pit in a foul atmosphere.

After much deliberation, the remedy I would propose for this imperfect ventilation is the following, which I think is quite practicable. I would dispense entirely with the system of windsails, and substitute a regular supply of pure fresh air on the surface of the floor of the between-decks. By means of a small steam-engine (one-horse power would be amply sufficient) placed near the galley on the forepart of the ship, I would force a constant supply of air by means of a pump, or by means of a centrifugal apparatus, such as is used in supplying air to furnaces down a shaft, terminating in a series of four or more metallic tubes laid along the floor of the between-decks from stem to stern; the metallic tubes to be perforated in the sides, and protected from injury by battens placed over them, but admitting egress of air at the sides; the tubes to bear a proper proportion to the main shaft, and the apertures in the tubes so regulated as to secure a uniform discharge of air throughout their length. The cold air thus admitted generally over the between-decks would be available by all; the heated expired air would rise, and be got rid of by the hatchways or other suitable openings provided in the main deck, and thus would be secured a comparatively cool and pure atmosphere. That the health of immigrants would be improved by this process does not admit of doubt, neither can I see any insuperable difficulty in its adoption.

That such a system might be adopted in large sea-going steamers to the great comfort of the passengers is obvious. I am also fully satisfied that an extension of the principle to the holds of merchant ships would tend to obviate the deterioration of many articles of merchandise, and would also put a stop to accidents from spontaneous combustion, of not unfrequent occurrence. Neither is it too much to suppose that were such a system adopted, it would afford the most direct means of using those agents for extinguishing fires on ship board, which were some years ago brought before the notice of the public.

(signed) *David Shier.*

Georgetown, 8 February 1858.

Encl. 2, in No. 13.

Enclosure 2, in No. 13.

Your Excellency,

I HAVE looked over Dr. Shier's suggestions as to the ventilation of immigrant vessels, and consider the idea of perforated tubes along the deck of the hold of the ship to be a very good one; but as to the means of supplying them with pure air, there seems to me to be no necessity for a steam-engine. The windsails would be amply sufficient to carry down a current of air; only, I would just fix the lower end of the windsails into the tubes. The ship moving through the air would cause the tubes to be constantly refilled with a fresh supply; of course, during a dead calm, this would not be sufficient; but then the immigrants would be mostly on deck, and if below the side ports could always be opened.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *John M. Johnstone*, Health Officer.

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

Encl. 3, in No. 13.

Enclosure 3, in No. 13.

Sir, Georgetown, 11 February 1858.

I HAVE read the accompanying letters handed to me by your Excellency yesterday, and approve highly of the plan for ventilating emigrant ships suggested by Dr. Shier. I do not at all agree with Dr. Johnstone in thinking that windsails applied as he suggests would be sufficient. For air to travel with sufficient rapidity in tubes escaping through small orifices, some considerable pressure must be applied, and it would be found that the one-horse steam-engine proposed by Dr. Shier would not be sufficiently effective. That point might safely be left to the mechanical engineers at home, who are accustomed to erect blowing machines for their own forges. In addition to the steam-engine, however, I would suggest that cranks should be put up between-decks to couple with the blowing apparatus, so that when the engine is disconnected, either for repairs, or if the fires should be put out in a gale, the passengers below might supply themselves with air; and the sirdars might be paid to see that the gangs work at the cranks on such occasions.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Frederick Bourne*, Colonial Civil Engineer.

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 14. —

(No. 24.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

No. 14.
Lieut. Gov. Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
20 March 1858.

Government House, Demerara, 20 March 1858.
(Received, 19 April 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose the usual reports by the Health Officer and the Acting Immigration Agent General, of the arrival of the British schooner "J. M. W." with 56 immigrants from the Virgin Islands.

This is the first importation under the authority of Ordinance 18 of 1857, sec. 11. The people have been engaged by Mr. Booker for his estate, Greenfield, on the east coast of Demerara, a very healthy and suitable locality.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 14.

Encl. 1, in No. 14.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
19 March 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the arrival, on the 12th inst., of the schooner "J. M. W." from St. Thomas, with 49 immigrants from Tortola, introduced under private contract by Josias Booker, Esq., and located by that gentleman on his estate, Plantation Greenfield, East Coast.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Act. Imm. Agent Genl.

The Hon. J. Gardiner Austin,
Act. Govt. Sec.

Enclosure 2, in No. 14.

Encl. 2, in No. 14.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara, 13 March 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Schooner "J. M. W.," which arrived here on the 12th inst., 15 days from *St. Thomas*, having touched at *Barbadoes* on the 8th inst. for one day.

Master's name, Joseph Simmonds.	Number of crew - - - - - - 8
Surgeon's name, none.	Registered tonnage - - - - - 55
Quarantine, none.	Passengers' deck, 30 feet by 18 feet, 6 feet high.

NUMERAL LIST.

Emigrants.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 24th February 1858 - - -	30	17	3	- -	3	3	56
Died on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Born on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrived in port - - -	30	17	3	- -	3	3	56
For hospital - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
For immediate distribution -	30	17	3	- -	3	3	56

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SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	56	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	–
Total number sick, as per general abstract	–	Daily average of people sick, , per-centage thereof	–
Total number of deaths	–	Highest number sick in any one day	–
Per centage of deaths to number embarked	–	Lowest number ditto - ditto	–

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

People arrive in good health and condition.
Provisions and water good.
Vessel clean and comfortably fitted up.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone*,
Health Officer.

N. B.—These immigrants arrive on private account.

J. M. J.

— No. 15. —

No. 15.
Lieut. Gov. Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 24 March 1858.

(No. 25.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 24 March 1858.

Sir, (Received, 19 April 1858.)

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual reports by the Acting Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer, of the arrival at this port, in 79 days from the Sandheads, of the barque "Bucephalus," with 383 immigrants, of whom only six required to be sent to hospital.

I also enclose a letter from the Acting Government Secretary, Mr. Austin, whose testimony as to the beneficial results of the alterations suggested in the equipment of these ships will be found satisfactory.

It will be seen that this voyage has been a very favourable one, the deaths having amounted to less than four per cent. of the number embarked, while of the cases sent to hospital only one is likely, as I was informed by the surgeon-general, to have a fatal termination.

The people, who are physically a very good selection, have been distributed on estates in the neighbourhood of Georgetown, which, for the most part, did not share in the supplies of last season.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Encl. 1, in No. 15.

Enclosure 1, in No. 15.

(No. 104.)

Immigration Agent General's Office,
20 March 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the arrival at this port, on the 12th inst., of the ship "Bucephalus," F. M. Peppercorn, commander, from Calcutta, after a passage of 79 days from the Sandheads, with 383 immigrants, or 339 statute adults; viz.—

	M.	W.	B.	G.	Inf.	TOTAL.
Embarked	211	110	33	26	16	396
Died at sea	5	5	1	2	–	13
Arrived	206	105	32	24	16	383
Sent to hospital	6	1	–	–	–	7
Allotted	200	104	32	24	16	376

I need

I need hardly call the attention of his Excellency to the satisfactory point, that the mortality among the "Bucephalus" coolies this voyage is not even one-third of what it was her last trip here in February 1857.

This is doubtless partly ascribable to the two following causes, namely,

The superior class of emigrants embarked at Calcutta, and secondly, the privies being so contrived as to project outside the ship, thus removing much of that foul smell which must necessarily foster disease, and where diarrhœa breaks out, renders it difficult to be checked.

The immigrants *ex* "Bucephalus" expressed themselves fully satisfied with the treatment they received during the voyage from the captain, surgeon and officers of the ship, and the provisions of the charterparty having been fully carried out, I have issued the usual certificate for the payment of the bounty.

I would finally remark, for the information of his Excellency, that among the immigrants *ex* "Bucephalus," there are five coolies who left here for Calcutta, in the "Blue Jacket," on the 11th March 1857, and, irrespective of the favourable results which may arise from their return to this colony, I am inclined to view their presence on board the "Bucephalus" as having had a most salutary influence on the other coolies, to whom they could, and I know did impart a knowledge of their future prospects, thus relieving them from that despondency to which the Calcutta emigrant is so prone on a long voyage.

I am led to this opinion by the very cheerful appearance of the people, and the evidence they gave of fully understanding their contracts.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams*,
Actg. Immigration Agent Genl.

The Hon. J. G. Austin,
Actg. Govt. Secy.

Enclosure 2, in No. 15.

Encl. 2, in No. 15.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara,
20 March 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Ship "Bucephalus," which arrived here on the 11th instant, 79 days from *Calcutta*, having touched at *St. Helena*, 18th February, for two days.

Master's name, Wm. Peppercorne.
Surgeon's name, Dr. James.
Quarantine, none recommended.

Number of crew - - - - - 50
Registered tonnage - - - - - 985
Passengers' deck, 148 feet by 32 feet; 6 feet 5 in. high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 19th December, 1857 - - -	211	110	34	25	6	8	396
Died on the voyage - -	5	5	2	1	- -	- -	13
Born on the voyage - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arrived in port - - -	206	105	32	24	8	8	383
For hospital - - -	6	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	7
For immediate distribution -	200	104	32	24	8	8	376

BRITISH GUIANA.

CONDENSATION OF SURGEON'S WEEKLY ABSTRACTS.

No. of Week.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.	XIII.
Number of sick -	13	6	–	5	7	4	6	1	3	3	3	4	7
Number of deaths	–	1	–	1	–	–	2	1	1	3	–	1	1
Cause of deaths -	–	Chol.	–	Dys.	–	–	Dys.	Marasmus	Diarr.	Diarr.	–	Diarrhœa.	
Latitude - -	12° N.	1° N.	° S.	16° S.	25° S.	31° S.	35° S.	21° S.	13° S.	5° S.	5° N.	Demerary.	

GENERAL ABSTRACT OF SURGEON'S JOURNAL.

Taken on Board.	Sick.	Since Sick.	Total Sick.	Cured.	Dead.	Remaining.	Chief Diseases.
Men - - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	5	6	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.
Women - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	5	1	
Boys - - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	–	
Girls - - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	–	
Infants - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
TOTAL - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	13	7	

DEATH LIST.

Name.	Age. M.	Age. F.	Disease.	No. of Days Sick.	Date of Death.
Thaumoo - - - -	30	- -	Dysentery - -	2	1 January 1858.
Beekhum - - - -	35	- -	- ditto - - -	?	5 „ „
Cassinauth - - -	25	- -	- ditto - - -	3	1 February „
Tussea - - - -	- -	20	- ditto - - -	2	5 „ „
Hameea - - - -	- -	48	Sudden death ? -	?	7 „ „
Poonah - - - -	- -	35	Diarrhœa - -	3	20 „ „
Manooee - - - -	7	- -	- ditto - - -	1	27 „ „
Luckhee - - - -	- -	5	- ditto - - -	3	17 „ „
Hausraneea - - -	- -	33	Sudden death - -	?	20 „ „
Bolaky - - - -	13	- -	Diarrhœa - -	2	21 „ „
Jahalee - - - -	- -	45	- ditto - - -	4	6 March „
Seegobin - - - -	21	- -	- ditto - - -	5	11 „ „
Sooballok - - - -	21	- -	- ditto - - -	5	11 „ „

HOSPITAL

HOSPITAL LIST.

Name.	Age. M.	Age. F.	Disease.	No. of Days Sick.	General Treatment.
Kimboo - - - -	35	- -	Abscess - - -	1	Poultices.
Dhoolie - - - -	25	- -	Fever - - -	1	No treatment as yet.
Khoola - - - -	24	- -	Debility - - -	1	Tonics.
Juggernauth - - -	45	- -	Diarrhœa - -	10	Sulph. cup. and tonics.
Juggadee - - - -	24	- -	Debility - - -	1	Tonics.
Roochayah, and his wife, viz.	19	- -	Diarrhœa - -	7	Sulph. cup. and tonics.
Berbetia - - - -	- -	19	To attend to her husband.		

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	396	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	–
Total number sick, as per general abstract	–	Daily average of people sick, per-centage thereof	–
Total number of deaths	13	Highest number sick in any one day	not stated.
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	3·26	Lowest number ditto - ditto -	not stated.

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

Surgeon's journal kept somewhat loosely, with such entries as this, "A few cases of diarrhœa," &c., without specifying names or sexes; so that I find it impossible to fill up the form marked "General Abstract."

No diary of occurrences.

The people appear to have been very well treated, and arrive in excellent health and condition.

Provisions and water good.

Vessel clean and thoroughly ventilated, with four fixed ventilators from the deck, and large side ports all along the hold.

John M. Johnstone,
Health Officer.

Extract from Daily Medical Journal:

"1858. January 2 to January 15.

"From the above date I have been ill and unable to make any entry. The decks have been carefully attended to, cleansed and ventilated under the superintendence of Mr. Dodely, the second officer."

Sir, Ship "Bucephalus," 23 March 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, accompanied by an extract from the report of the health officer of this port, in which he states that the surgeon's journal of this ship has been loosely kept, with such entries as a few cases of diarrhœa, without the names of the parties, no diary of occurrences, &c., &c.

In the early part of the voyage he will find a remark that I had been so ill as to have been utterly incapable of making any entry for several days (from the effects of which I am still suffering considerably); every case of importance that came under my care was entered in the journal, with the names of the patients, as well as I was able to do it; and when the entries occurred, of which he speaks, they were trifling cases of relaxation of the bowels that in all probability would not require a second attendance at the dispensary place.

No diary of occurrences: I am at a loss to understand what kind of information is sought under this head; if it be in reference to ventilation or ablutions he will find frequent memos. relative to opening and closing the ports, the people being compelled to wash at the deck-tub, and had it not been for measures of this kind, carried out under my own personal superintendence

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superintendence, whilst suffering severely from neuralgia of the thighs and lower extremities, the people would not (as he says they do) appear to have been very well treated, and arrived in excellent health and condition.

Hoping this explanation will prove satisfactory to the Lieutenant Governor,

I have, &c.

The Honourable J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

(signed) *Robert James*,
Surgeon Superintendent, Ship "Bucephalus."

Encl. 3, in No. 15.

Enclosure 3, in No. 15.

Your Excellency, 22 March 1858.

HAVING visited the "Bucephalus" the day after her arrival for the express purpose of observing whether any of the alterations suggested from this had been adopted in India, and with what results they had been attended, I have great pleasure in acquainting your Excellency that there was a very marked improvement in all the arrangements for the comfort and cleanliness of the immigrants, and that to these I attribute the diminished mortality and healthy appearance of those arriving.

In the previous voyage the stench from the privies and the filth therefrom in the scuppers was alone sufficient to breed disease, whilst on this occasion the privies have been placed outside, the decks have been kept perfectly clean and sweet, and additional space has been afforded for exercise.

The passengers' deck has also been greatly improved by additional ventilators and the removal of the centre platforms, thereby contributing very much to general health, admitting greater cleanliness, and increasing the space for exercise.

I have, &c.

His Excellency William Walker, Esq.
Lieutenant Governor.

(signed) *J. Gardiner Austin*,
Acting Government Secretary.

— No. 16. —

(No. 26.)

No. 16.
Lieut. Gov. Walker to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.
24 March 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 24 March 1858.
(Received, 19 April 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 46, 4 June 1858, p. 165.)

* P. 128. ON the receipt of your Despatch, No. 372* of the 16th January last, I took the earliest opportunity of communicating the substance of its contents to the Court of Policy.

† P. 17. The members appeared to desire to await the result of my Despatch, No. 11† of the 23d January, in which I had the honour to enclose Ordinance No. 2, for the regulation of immigration from Bombay on private account, and to submit for your consideration certain objections to its provisions entertained by the elective section.

Meanwhile, however, I received a communication from Mr. Keate, the Governor of Trinidad, in pursuance of your suggestion to that effect; and concurring fully in his view as to the desirableness of coming to an understanding upon the subject as early as possible, with a view to save the next season, I laid his Despatch before the Court, and requested two of the elective members, Mr. Clementson and Mr. Conyers, to ascertain as far as practicable, and report the views entertained by gentlemen interested in the question.

I beg to enclose an extract minute of the Court's proceedings at its meeting yesterday, from which you will perceive that in the event of an agent being appointed, it is desired that his services should be devoted exclusively to the promotion of emigration to this colony, leaving the Government of Trinidad to make arrangements for the protection of its own interests.

It is right for me to add that Mr. Clementson brought forward a resolution to the effect that you should be requested to leave the selection of the agent for Bombay in the hands of the local government, but it was lost on a division,

only

only the mover and seconder, Mr. Conyers, voting for it; one elective member, Mr. Roney, and the administrator-general voting against it, and the remaining three official members declining to vote.

I shall of course lose no time in making known to Mr. Keate the opinion of the Court in regard to the appointment of an agent solely for British Guiana.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Enclosure in No. 16.

Encl. in No. 16.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the Colony of British Guiana, at its adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, Tuesday, 23 March 1858.

[After Prayers.]

REFERRING to the portion of the Despatch from his Excellency the Governor of Trinidad, in which it was asked whether the Colony would be disposed to appoint an agent jointly with Trinidad, the Court came to the decision that in the event of an agent being employed for this Colony his services should be devoted exclusively to its interests.

— No. 17. —

(No. 30.)

No. 17.
Lieut. Gov. Walker to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. 25 March 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 25 March 1858.

My Lord, (Received, 19 April 1858.)

WITH reference to Mr. Secretary Labouchere's Despatch, No. 387* of the 18th ultimo, I have the honour to state that the "White Eagle," therein alluded to, arrived in this port on the 20th instant, with a very satisfactory selection of people, and after a good passage; the distribution not having been completed, I am unable to furnish details by this mail.

* P. 137.

The commander having offered the vessel for charter to carry returning immigrants to Calcutta, I had decided on taking the responsibility of doing so, assuming the terms to be such as I could agree to; and I am happy to find that that course is what the Emigration Commissioners themselves have recommended as preferable.

I propose to report fully upon the subject when the arrangement is completed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

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— No. 18. —

No. 18.
Lieut. Gov. Walker to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. 7 April 1858.

(No. 34.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 7 April 1858.
(Received, 5 May 1858.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the customary reports by the Acting Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer, of the arrival, on the 4th instant, of the barque "Sylph," from Madeira, with 218 immigrants, of whom 18 paid for their own passages.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Encl. 1, in No. 18.

Enclosure 1, in No. 18.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
6 April 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the arrival at this port, on the 4th instant, of the barque "Sylph," from Madeira, with

	M.	W.	B.	G.	Inf.	TOTAL.
Arrived - - - -	111	64	7	13	23	218
Paid their passage - -	12	3	–	–	–	15
Immigrants under Ordinance 10 - - -	99	61	7	13	23	203
Less over age - - -	1	2	–	–	–	3
Paid for by colony - -	98	59	7	13	23	200

Deducting those who have been in the colony before, and who were over age, I have issued the usual certificate for payment of the freight on the remainder.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting I. A. G.

The Hon. J. Gardiner Austin,
Actg. Govt. Secretary.

Enclosure

Enclosure 2, in No. 18.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara, 6 April 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Barque "Sylph," which arrived here on the 4th instant, 22 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, Joseph Crouse.
Surgeon's name, Henry Crawford Rodriguez.
Quarantine, none.

Number of crew - - - - - 10
Registered tonnage - - - - - 200
Passengers' deck, 90 feet by 25 feet; 6 feet high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 11th March 1858 - - - -	111	64	7	13	12	11	218
Died on the voyage - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Born on the voyage - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Arrived in port - - -	111	64	7	13	12	11	218
For hospital - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
For immediate distribution -	111	64	7	13	12	11	218

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked - 218
Total number sick, as per general abstract - –
Total number of deaths - - - - - –
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked –
Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness - –
Daily average of people sick, per-centage thereof - - - - - - - –
Highest number sick in any one day - - –
Lowest number ditto - ditto - - - - –

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

No sickness during the passage. One case of ophthalmia convalescing. Woman prefers going with her friends.

Provisions and water good. Vessel comfortably fitted up, and clean.

John M. Johnstone, Health Officer.

— No. 19. —

(No. 39.)

No. 19.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P.
8 April 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Government House, Demerara, 8 April 1858.
(Received, 5 May 1858.)

My Lord,

WITH reference to Mr. Secretary Labouchere's circular Despatch of the 8th September last,* enclosing correspondence with the Governor of Sierra Leone, relative to the desire of certain residents at that place that facilities should be afforded for the return of their friends who had emigrated to these colonies, I have the honour to enclose a report from the Acting Immigration Agent General, embodying the result of the inquiries he has been enabled to institute upon the subject, and from which it would appear that the number of persons in this colony answering the description of those alluded to in the Despatch of Governor Hill, is very small indeed.

* *Vide* Appendix, No. 2, p. 421.

I am

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I am quite of opinion that it would be good policy to afford any reasonable facilities for the return to their native country of persons of this description, who may have fulfilled their obligations of service here; and should it be found practicable to re-establish, under the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, emigration to these colonies from the African coast, I do not doubt that the Legislature of British Guiana would readily concur in any satisfactory arrangement for effecting that object.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Encl. in No. 19.

Enclosure in No. 19.

Sir, Immigration Agent General's Office, 7 April 1858.

I HAVE the honour to return Despatches, bearing reference to the petitions of certain Africans at Sierra Leone, to the Governor of that colony, praying that friends of theirs, whom they have named in separate lists, be sent back to them from the respective colonies to which they emigrated, and have to state that, in pursuance of the minute of the Lieutenant Governor on one of the Despatches, I have compared the list of Africans given by the petitioners with the names in our registers of those who emigrated here, and find them to be very different, with the exception of a few named in a memorandum herewith laid over.

Even these would have to be subject to a personal examination in order to identify them as the parties actually referred to.

Every opportunity seems to have been offered to those Africans who emigrated here to return to their country, no less than nine vessels having sailed from this port between 1842 and 1853. In most cases not more than 50 went.

In April 1853, when the "Elphinstone" was about to leave, the Immigration Agent General gave the widest publicity to her intended departure, and all Africans wishing back passage were then summoned to appear; notwithstanding which, only 59 came forward.

The Honourable the
Acting Government Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting Immigration Agent General.

Name.	Ship of Import.	Date of Arrival.	Remarks.
John Davis - - -	Superior -	23 Sept. 1841	Does not appear to have left.
John Davis - - -	ditto - -	23 — -	Returned per "Gluckman," 9 August 1850.
John Macaulay - -	ditto - -	23 — -	Does not appear to have left.
George Macaulay - -	ditto - -	23 — -	- - - ditto,
John Harding - -	ditto - -	23 — -	- - - ditto.
Thomas Davis - -	ditto - -	23 — -	- - - ditto.
John Macaulay - -	ditto - -	23 — -	- - - ditto.
John Davis - - -	ditto - -	12 Sept. 1842	- - - ditto.
Ditto - - -	ditto - -	12 — -	- - - ditto.
Ditto - - -	ditto - -	12 — -	- - - ditto.
Betsy Cole - - -	Arabian -	16 Sept. 1843	- - - ditto.
Charles Cole - -	ditto - -	29 Sept. 1844	- - - ditto.

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— No. 20. —

No. 20. Lieut.-Governor Walker to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 9 April 1858.

(No. 41.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Government House, Demerara,
9 April 1858.

My Lord, (Received 5 May 1858.)

HAVING in my Despatch of the 25th ultimo, No. 30,* mentioned the arrival of the ship "White Eagle" from Madras with immigrants, I now do myself the honour of transmitting the customary Reports of the Acting Immigration Agent General and of the Health Officer, which concur in representing this as one of the most satisfactory immigration voyages to this colony upon record.

* P. 29.

Although these people did not attempt to deny that Mr. Franklin, the emigration agent at Madras, had distinctly informed them of the condition of ten years' residence, they were led by the knowledge of the concession made to their predecessors by the "Blue Jacket" to contend that they should only be required to serve for the same term, namely, five years, and indeed they at first refused to sign indentures, except upon that understanding. It is therefore highly important that none should be suffered to embark who do not clearly understand, and admit their liability to remain in the colony for ten years, or to forfeit their claim to a return passage at the public expense.

I have engaged the "White Eagle" for a return passage to Calcutta, but am unable to forward a copy of the charterparty by the present mail.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 20.

Encl. 1, in No. 20.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
31 March 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the arrival of the ship "White Eagle," on the 21st instant, from Madras, after a passage of 79 days, bringing 377 immigrants, or 346 adults, viz.:

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	TOTAL.
Embarked	227	102	26	16	10	380
Births	–	–	–	–	2	2
Died at sea	4	–	–	–	1	5
Died in harbour	–	1	–	–	–	1
Landed	223	101	26	16	10	376
Hospital	–	2	–	–	–	2
Distributed	223	99	26	16	10	374

A finer and healthier lot of people I do not remember having seen, and there is every reason to hope that they will turn out well as agricultural labourers. They are for the most part from the vicinity of a place called Vizajapatam, about 400 miles N. N. E. of Madras, a seaport town.

It may not be irrelevant for me to mention that I am informed by the surgeon superintendent of the "White Eagle," who is a native of the country, that from the above-named place, as well as from Cananove, on the opposite coast of Madras, a large number of emigrants might be obtained were some agency established at either of these ports, the great impediment being that the people have to go a distance of 400 to 500 miles before they can see the agent at Madras, whom alone they will believe in regard to the advantages of emigration.

Of the emigrants who embarked on board the "White Eagle" at Madras, five died during the voyage, two of whom were drowned. I also regret to have to report the sudden death of a female during the allotment, from disease of the heart.

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Of the five who were sent to the colonial hospital the first day, three men returned prior to the ship being cleared, leaving only two sick.

In consequence of the great difficulty in getting schooners to proceed to Berbice, the delivery of the coolies was considerably delayed; the ship was, however, finally cleared of her immigrants on the 29th instant.

The accommodations of the "White Eagle" as an emigrant ship appear to be excellent: every care and attention seems to have been shown to the coolies by the captain and his officers; the provisions of the charterparty having also been fully carried out, I have issued the customary certificate for payment of the freight.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams*,
Acting Immigration Agent General.

The Hon. J. G. Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

Encl. 2, in No. 20.

Enclosure 2, in No. 20.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara, 30 March 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Iron Ship, "White Eagle," which arrived here on the 21st instant, 79 days from *Madras*, having touched at the *Cape of Good Hope*, 9th January, for three days.

Master's name, Wm. Gibbs.
Surgeon's name, D. L. Kearney.
Quarantine, none recommended.

Number of Crew, 12 Europeans and 30 Lascars.
Registered Tonnage - - - - - 993
Passengers' deck, 156 feet by 30 feet; 7 ft. 5 in. high.

NUMERAL LIST.

Emigrants.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	TOTAL.
Embarked on the 28th December 1857 - - -	227	102	25	17	5	4	380
Died on the voyage (including two men drowned) -	4	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	5
Born on the voyage, and in harbour - - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	2
Arrived in port - - -	223	102	23	17	5	4	377
For hospital - - - -	3	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	5
For immediate distribution -	220	100	23	17	5	4	370

CONDENSATION of SURGEON'S WEEKLY ABSTRACTS.

No. of week.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.
Number of sick - -	-	-	1	4	6	7	5	4	4	8	10	12
Number of deaths -	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	1		
Cause of deaths - -	-	-	-	Marasmus, dys.			-	drowning and diarrh.	-	drowning		
Latitude - - -	0°	7° S.	18° S.	27° S.	29° S.	34° S.	26° S.	16° S.	9° S.	2° S.	4° N.	Demerara.

GENERAL

GENERAL ABSTRACT of SURGEON'S JOURNAL.

Taken on Board.	Sick.	Since Sick.	Total Sick.	Cured.	Dead.	Remaining.	Chief Diseases.
Men - - -	–	–	14	9	2	3	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.
Women - - -	–	–	9	7	–	2	
Boys - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Girls - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Infants - - -	–	–	1	–	Male. 1	–	
TOTAL - - -	–	–	24	16	3*	5	

* Also two men drowned, making total mortality five.

DEATH LIST.

Name.	Age. M.	Age. F.	Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	Date of Death.
Nursimaboo - -	2 months -		Marasmus - -	19	29 January 1858.
Mosel Naicken - -	34 years -		Dysentery - -	13	3 February –
Appadoo - - -	42	–	Diarrhœa - -	19	17 „ –
Cootee Modelli - -	22	–	Drowned accidentally	- -	18 „ –
Sunnassee - - -	25	–	Ditto, suicidally -	- -	2 March –
Vencomah - -	–	25	Sudden death from disease of the heart.	- -	28 March, in harbour.

BIRTH LIST.

Mother's Name.	Sex of Child.	Date of Birth.	Result.
Marioye - - - -	male - -	4 January 1858	Favourable; child alive.
Thungum - - -	ditto - -	24 March 1858	Ditto - - ditto.

Also three abortions.

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HOSPITAL LIST.

Name.	Age. M.	Age. F.	Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	General Treatment.
Pareakak - - -	-	16	Bubo - - -	21	Incision; warm dressing and pressure.
Misthee - - -	24	-	Bubo - - -	21	Ditto - ditto.
Gungooloo - -	28	-	Syphilis - - -	21	Caustic; sulphur dressings; pil. hyd. & op. ter die.
Abdul Cander - -	26	-	Bubo - - -	18	Bubo opened; warm dressing and pressure.
Sashamah - -	-	25	Ulcers - - -	3	Caustic and warm dressings.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	380	Per-centage of three deaths to cases of sickness	12·50
Total number sick, as per general abstract	24	Daily average of people sick, three; per-centage thereof	0·79
Total number of deaths	5	Highest number sick in any one day	12
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	1·2	Lowest number ditto ditto	

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c., &c.

Immigrants arrive in excellent health and condition.

Surgeons' journals kept with great regularity and accuracy.

One of the after cabins in the poop used as the hospital.

Provisions and water very good.

Regarding the vessel, I beg to submit the following extract from the surgeon's concluding "Observations of the Voyage from Madras to Demerara," in every word of which I fully concur.

"The 'White Eagle' is an iron vessel, a clipper of the 1st class, a fast sailer (her maximum rate of sailing in one day having amounted to 390 miles), launched about three years ago, fitted up with all the most recent improvements, having lightning conductors to each mast; is exceedingly well ventilated, having no less than three patent ventilators, two at the after part, and one at the fore part of the ship, besides 56 scuttles or ports opening into the lower deck, and contains space sufficient to accommodate conveniently a hundred more than the present regulated complement, having on a former occasion conveyed no less than 438 souls to the Mauritius, without a casualty." "I consider this vessel in all respects admirably adapted to the cooly trade."

"In addition to the peculiarities already enumerated, this vessel possesses some other decided advantages over wooden ships; in maintaining a freedom from the malarious exhalations resulting from the decomposition of wood, and also the effluvia common to the bilge-water of ships generally."

John M. Johnstone,
Health Officer.

— No. 21. —

(No. 47.)

No. 21.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P.
6 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 6 May 1858.

My Lord, (Received, 31 May 1858.)

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual reports of the Acting Immigration Agent General, and of the Health Officer of this port, of the arrival of the brig "Dominick Daly" with liberated Africans from St. Helena.

The voyage appears to have been a very satisfactory one, and the people have arrived in good health and spirits.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 21.

Encl. 1, in No. 21.

Sir, Immigration Agent General's Office, 26 April 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the arrival on the 21st inst. of the brig "Dominick Daly," after a passage of 23 days from St. Helena, bringing 108 male and 41 female liberated Africans, all above 10 years of age, and an infant born on board; making a total of 150 souls.

The number placed on board by the Emigration Agent at St. Helena was 150, of whom one, a male, died during the voyage of epilepsy. Of the number landed, namely, 108 males, 41 females, and 1 infant, total, 150, 3 males and 2 females, total 5, were suffering from debility, and have been forwarded to the Colonial hospital, leaving for immediate distribution 105 males, 39 females, and 1 infant = 145 souls.

These, in accordance with my instructions, I have allotted as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Infants.	TOTAL.
Plantation Friendship and Sarah - - -	17	6	- -	23
Plantation Success - - - - - -	17	7	- -	24
Plantation Caledonia - - - - -	11	4	- -	15
Plantation Bank Hall - - - - -	11	4	- -	15
Plantation Belle Plaine - - - - -	11	4	- -	15
Plantation Hamburg and Sophienburg - -	17	6	- -	23
Plantation Hoff V. Holand - - - -	10	4	- -	14
Plantation Blenheim - - - - -	11	4	1	16
	105	39	1	145

With the exception of those sent to hospital (none of which are serious cases), the people were in excellent health, and very cheerful. A good deal of care appears to have been paid, not only to their personal cleanliness and general wants, but also to their amusement during the voyage. The terms of the charterparty seem to have been (as far as I could ascertain) fully complied with, and I have issued to the master the necessary certificate to that effect.

I beg to lay over a communication from the surgeon superintendent, in reference to the coolies and headmen who acted under him on board. They had been promised a gratuity of two dollars each, which I have undertaken to forward to them on the estates.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Denis M. Gallagher,*
Acting Superintending Immigration Agent.

The Hon. J. G. Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

---

23 April 1858.

In accordance with my instructions, I appointed two headmen, "Lecco" and "Yolno," and two coolies, "Rai" and "Mais-ala." They have performed their duties satisfactorily, and are entitled to their gratuity of two dollars.

(signed) *Edward William Turner.*

To the Immigration Agent General,
Demerara.

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Encl. 2, in No. 21.

Enclosure 2, in No. 21.

Port of Georgetown, Demerary, 22 April 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Brig "Dominick Daly," which arrived here on the 21st instant, 23 days from *St. Helena*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, George Jury.
Surgeon's name, Edward William Turner.
Quarantine, none recommended.

Number of Crew - - - - 13
Registered Tonnage - - - - 227
Passengers' deck, 90 feet by 20 feet; 6 feet 4 inches high.

NUMERAL LIST.

Emigrants.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	Total.
Embarked on the 29th March 1858.*	109	41	-	-	-	-	150
Died on the voyage	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Born on the voyage	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Arrived in port	108	41	-	-	1	-	150
For hospital	3	2	-	-	-	-	5
For immediate distribution	105	39	-	-	1	-	145

CONDENSATION OF SURGEON'S WEEKLY ABSTRACTS.

No. of Week	I.	II.	III.	IV.
No. of Sick	15	20	13	5
No. of Deaths	1	—	—	—
Cause of Deaths	Epilepsy.	—	—	—
Latitude	7° 44′ S.	1° N.	7° N.	Demerary.

GENERAL ABSTRACT OF SURGEON'S JOURNAL.

Taken on Board.	Sick.	Since Sick.	Total Sick.	Cured.	Dead.	Remaining.	Chief Diseases.
Men	—	—	20	16	1	3	Bronchitis, Diarrhœa, and Dysentery.
Women	—	—	7	5	—	2	
Boys	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Girls	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Infants	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL	—	—	27	21	1	5	

* All over 10 years of age counted as adults.

DEATH

DEATH LIST.

Name.	Age. M.	Age. F.	Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	Date of Death.
Massoonda - -	19	–	Epilepsy and bronchitis.	3	5 April 1858.

BIRTH LIST.

Mother's Name.	Sex of Child.	Date of Birth.	Result.
Fookee - - - -	Male - -	16 April 1858 -	Mother and child doing well.

HOSPITAL LIST.

Name.	Age. M.	Age. F.	Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	General Treatment.
Labella - - -	23	–	Debility - - -	10	Tonics and nourishment.
Kingkala - - -	22	–	Ditto - - -	20	- - Ditto.
Coosoo - - -	–	12	Dysentery - -	21	Chalk mixture and opium.
Pembar - - - -	–	15	Debility - - -	5	Tonics and nourishment.
Pembalala - -	13	–	Anasarca - -	2	Acet. potass. and spirits of nitre.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked -	150	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	3·70
Total number sick, as per General Abstract	27	Daily average of people sick, 8; per-centage thereof - - - - -	5·33
Total number of deaths - - - - -	1	Highest number sick in any one day -	14
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked - - - - - - -	0·66	Lowest number sick in any one day -	3

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c.

Surgeon's diary and journal kept with due regularity.
People healthy looking: young and in good condition.
Provisions and water very good.
Vessel clean and in good order.

Extract from Surgeon's Diary:

"April 19, Toobec and Jimpookata found attempting to break through the bulk-head; they were rope's-ended and sent below; a few minutes afterwards Eudokee (who had informed against them) came up and complained that Jimpookata had attempted to cut his throat; searching for his knife, an axe was found concealed under blankets; thought it necessary to put him in irons."

(signed) *John M. Johnstone,*
Health Officer.

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 22. —

(No. 51.)

No. 22.
Lieut. Governor Walker to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P.
8 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Walker* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Government House, Demerara, 8 May 1858.

My Lord, (Received, 31 May 1858.)

* Page 33.

REFERRING to my Despatch, No. 41* of the 9th April, wherein I reported the engagement of the ship "White Eagle" for the conveyance of immigrants returning to Calcutta, I have now the honour to enclose copy of the report of survey on the vessel, and also of the charterparty, both of which will, I trust, be found satisfactory.

The ship is now loading, but I am informed by the Acting Immigration Agent General that many of the people who had not only registered their names for the return voyage, but had deposited their savings for remittance, are now reluctant to embark, from apprehensions of their being exposed to violence and robbery in returning to their homes, from the disturbed state of India.

Of course every legitimate means will be employed to disabuse their minds of these impressions, and to assure them of the protection of Government for their persons and property.

I propose to report, in due course, the departure of the vessel.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Encl. 1, in No. 22.

Enclosure 1, in No. 22.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
3 April 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a report of the survey held on the ship "White Eagle," in order to pronounce as to her fitness for the conveyance of coolies to Calcutta, and would further add my own confidence of the capabilities of the "White Eagle" as an emigrant ship.

The kindness and attention of the officers towards the immigrants just arrived, and the success of the surgeon superintendent, promises well for the return voyage.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting Immigration Agent General.

The Honourable J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

Encl. 2, in No. 22.

Enclosure 2, in No. 22.

31 March 1858.

Sir,

IN accordance with your note to me of yesterday's date, the supervisor of aid waiters and Captain B. A. Williams, formerly of the brigantine "Golden Rule," went on board the ship "White Eagle" for the purpose of ascertaining whether the said vessel is fit to convey coolies back to Calcutta.

We found the vessel fitted up in a very superior manner, and the arrangements for the accommodation of the immigrants spacious and well ventilated, having a good height between decks; we do not think we have seen an immigrant ship with better accommodation, and we have no hesitation in stating that she is in every way fit for the conveyance of coolies.

(signed) *Henry J. Whitney*, Harbour Master.
John Taggart, Master Mariner.
B. A. Williams, Master Mariner.

C. Williams, Esq.
Acting Immigration Agent General.

— No. 23. —

(No. 56.)

No. 23. Governor Wodehouse to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 10 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Government House, Georgetown,
10 May 1858.
(Received 31 May 1858.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report, with reference to past correspondence on the subject, that Mr. J. G. Austin, the Immigration Agent General of this colony, proceeds to England this day, to be employed as our agent in China for the promotion of a permanent system of immigration hither.

I enclose a copy of certain resolutions passed by the Court of Policy, and shall take an early opportunity of again addressing you on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Enclosure in No. 23. Encl. in No. 23.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the Colony of British Guiana, at its adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, Tuesday 13 April 1858.

(After Prayers.)

IMMIGRATION.

THE Honourable Mr. Clementson moves, and the Honourable Mr. Conyers seconds, that this Court considers it expedient that effect should be given to the recommendation of his Excellency Governor Wodehouse, as approved by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the appointment of an agent for this colony in China.

For	Against
Hon.—Conyers.	Hon.—Rose.
Clementson.	
Attorney General.	
Chief Justice.	

Motion carried.

The Honourable Mr. Clementson then moves, that his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor be requested to place such sum on the estimate for the consideration of the Combined Court as will provide a salary at the rate of 1,500*l.* per annum, exclusive of travelling and other expenses, of a mission to China.

It was placed on the estimate accordingly, the Honourable Mr. Rose dissenting.

— No. 24. —

(No. 60.)

No. 24. Governor Wodehouse to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. 24 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Government House, Georgetown,
24 May 1858.
(Received, 15 June 1858.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of a report from the Acting Immigration Agent General upon the ship "White Eagle," which has sailed with coolies for Calcutta.

BRITISH GUIANA.

I likewise enclose the certificate of the Commissariat officer for the amount of the savings of these people, and also a letter for transmission to the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, and another for transmission to the Protector of Emigrants there, to which latter officer I have also forwarded the duplicate Commissariat certificate.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Encl. in No. 24.

Enclosure in No. 24.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
17 May 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the departure of the "White Eagle" from this port on the evening of the 13th instant, with return coolies for Calcutta, as noted in the margin.

Men - -	256
Women -	42
Boys - -	8
Girls - -	10
Infants -	7
Total - -	323

Statute adults, 307.

The emigrants were embarked on the 12th, and the day previous had been inspected in my presence by Dr. Johnstone, the health officer, and by Dr. Kearney, the surgeon superintendent of the "White Eagle." I herewith lay over a certificate from the former; owing to the sudden sailing out of the ship, to save the tide, I was prevented from obtaining Dr. Kearney's signature to a similar document; I shall however write to the Cape about it. Meanwhile Dr. Johnstone certifies to Dr. Kearney's having inspected the people, and approval of their fitness for the voyage, and I may add that, with the exception of two or three cases of old age, a finer-looking people I would not wish to see.

The stores, as is customary, were all surveyed by an officer of the Customs, the surgeon superintendent and myself, six of the return emigrants being present, and were passed as the full quantity required, and of unobjectionable quality.

Preserved milk could not be had to the extent fixed by the charterparty; I therefore authorised the substitution of milch goats.

No cocoa-nut oil was provided by charter, but as the emigrants prayed earnestly that they might be provided with some, I submitted their request to his Excellency, who authorised the purchase of the quantity needed at the expense of the colony, *i. e.*, 101 gallons, cost $. 151. 50 cents. The ship being bound to touch at the Cape for water, I did not press for a supply beyond 100 days, nor did I think it expedient to take samples of the provisions for the immigration agent at Calcutta, six of the emigrants who were with me on the inspection having examined every article, and expressed their unqualified approval. I herewith enclose a list of the stores, signed by Captain Gibbs. With the exception of a few coolies, who I provided with clothing at the expense of the colony, each emigrant has been furnished at his own expense with the warm articles, as follows:

		$.	c.
Each man -	2 blankets, 1 shirt - 1 trousers, 1 cap - - -	5	50
Each woman	2 ditto - 1 petticoat, 1 wrapper - - - -	5	50
Each boy -	1 ditto - 1 shirt - 1 trousers, 1 cap - - -	3	20
Each girl -	1 ditto - 1 petticoat, 1 wrapper - - - -	3	00

Owing to the duty on the blankets which Messrs. Steele, Loxdale & Co. had to pay, having shipped on this occasion from their store, whereas before they had been in bond, the men's clothing amounted to $. 5. 96, being 46 cents in excess of what each man was charged; however, rather than that the emigrant should be called to pay the difference, his Excellency the Governor gave his sanction to its being paid by the colony.

The clothing was delivered over to the care of Dr. Kearney, to whom I issued instructions with respect to the distribution of it in a letter relating to his duties, during the voyage, a copy of which I herewith enclose.

A numerical list, giving full particulars of each emigrant, has also been handed by me to the surgeon superintendent, and a despatch entrusted to his care for Mr. Caird, the immigration agent at Calcutta.

In this list is entered the name of each emigrant, that of his or her father, the age, sex, height, bodily marks, date of introduction, by what ship introduced, the amount deposited for remittance to Calcutta, and, finally, how such money is to be disposed of in the event of death.

Each immigrant holds a receipt from the Colonial receiver general, countersigned by me, for the sum deposited by him or her, and these vouchers they handed over in my presence to the care of the surgeon superintendent, until the arrival of the ship at her destination.

The accumulated savings of the return coolies in the "White Eagle" amount to $. 27,386. 63 *c.*, or to 5,705 *l.* 10 *s.* 11 ½ *d.*; a somewhat smaller sum than that carried (away?) in the "Hamilla Mitchell;" which, however, is easily accounted for by the fact, that the "White Eagle" return coolies have for the most part been residents of only five years in the colony, whilst many of those in the "Hamilla Mitchell" had been upwards of 10 years, four of these having between them no less than from $. 7,000 to $. 8,000.

But for the circumstance of my having on the register for back passages a number in excess of that the "White Eagle" was to carry, I should have had some difficulty in despatching that ship, in consequence of from 80 to 90 coolies, who had even deposited their

their money for remittance to Calcutta, and made every preparation to return by this vessel, having failed to come forward at the last moment, alleging, as I am given to understand, that they had not saved money enough; and, secondly, intimidated by the reports given of the state of their country by the late return emigrants. There is doubtless much truth in the former of the causes, for I have repeatedly convincing proofs before me that the coolies are becoming alive to the advantages a residence of 10 years in this country gives them over one of five; the introduction of late of a larger proportion of females has, I am also informed, some influence in disinclining them to leave.

As on all previous occasions I have laid much stress on the necessity of an hospital on board the "White Eagle," two of the state rooms in the cabin were allotted by Captain Gibbs for that purpose, securing the twofold object of isolation of the sick and separation of the sexes.

In speed and accommodation the "White Eagle" is equal to any ship that has left this port; this, coupled with the success of the surgeon in the trip from Madras, leads me to hope favourably for the return voyage.

I herewith enclose for the information of his Excellency the Governor, and for transmission to India, communications addressed by me to the Emigration Agent, and the Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta, also nominal list of the passengers in the "White Eagle."

I have, &c.

The Hon. Wm. Walker,
Government Secretary.

(signed) *Conway Williams*,
Acting Immigration Agent General.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

Georgetown, Demerara, 14 May 1858.

I HEREBY certify that, in company with Dr. Kearney, I examined the return coolies per ship "White Eagle," and found them all in excellent health and condition, and apparently quite capable of undertaking the voyage to India. In the absence of Dr. Kearney's signature to this document, I may state that he gave his approval as to their physical fitness for the voyage.

John M. Johnstone,
Health Officer.

Sub-Enclosure 2.

STORES required for Adults, per Ship "White Eagle," for *Calcutta*, for 196 Days.

Rice.	Peas or Dholl.	Ghee, Mustard, Oil, or Butter.	Salt.	Tamarinds, Preserved.	Treacle or Molasses.	Tobacco.	Turmeric.	Onions.	Chillies.	Black Pepper.	Mustard Seed.	Coriander Seed.	Garlic.	Biscuits.	Salt Fish.	Sugar.	Fresh Vegetables,
Lbs.	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Tons.*
91,140	15,190	3,797½	3,797½	7,595	7,595	1,898⅝	237½	237¼	118⅜	475	118¾	475	237¼	8,680	543	813½	3

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES for the Voyage.

Water.	Fire Wood.	Lime Juice.	Rum or Brandy.	Port Wine.	Flour.	Preserved Milk.	Tea.	Lamps or Lanterns.	Cabooses.	Iron Boilers.	Hatchets.	Curry Stones.	Iron Ladles.	Biscuits.	Chours.	Sheep.
Galls.	*Lbs.*	*Doz.*	*Galls.*	*Doz.*	*Brls.*	*Doz. Pts.*	*Lbs.*							*Maunds.*		
31,000	121,520	18⅓	155	3½	6¼	37¼	18¾	2	2	2	2	2	2	25		19

I do hereby certify that the above-mentioned stores have been duly shipped, and are now on board the "White Eagle," for the use of the passengers, entirely exclusive of any stores necessary for the use of the officers and crew.

Georgetown, Demerara,
12 May 1858.

William Gibbs,
Commander.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sub-Enclosure 3.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
12 May 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a nominal list of the return emigrants per "White Eagle," as passed by you and the health officer of this port.

Every particular is given in it which can tend to favour the identification of each individual; a very important point, especially where large sums of money are at stake.

Besides the name of each emigrant, is that of his or her father, the age, sex, height, bodily marks, the date of introduction in the colony, by what ship, the sum deposited, and, finally, how the money is to be disposed of in the event of death.

Each emigrant holds a receipt from the Colonial receiver general for the sum deposited by him or her, countersigned by me; and, to prevent the possibility of loss, I have advised their delivering these vouchers into your custody.

With the exception of those under 10, the ages are in most cases calculated from the original list forwarded to this office at the time of their introduction into the colony.

I herewith enclose a copy of the charterparty for your guidance. The stores have all been inspected and approved of by you, an officer of the Customs, and myself; but that you should be more positive in regard to the quantities, I also enclose a list of the supplies, certified to by Captain Gibbs.

Although your success with the emigrants per "White Eagle" from Madras, leads me to augur favourably in respect to your present charge, I nevertheless deem it my duty to draw your attention to the necessity of studying the difference which a few years' sojourn in this country may have made in the habits of the people. I refer more particularly to the daily issue of provisions. I would advise their getting a little biscuit and sugar in the morning, and instead of one meal per diem, as was the case coming, I would recommend their taking two, having been accustomed to it in this colony.

Besides his own clothing, each emigrant has been furnished, at his own expense, with the following warm articles:—

Each man, 2 blankets, 1 shirt, 1 pair trousers, 1 cap.
Each woman, 2 blankets, 1 petticoat, 1 wrapper.
Each boy, 1 blanket, 1 shirt, 1 pair trousers, 1 cap.
Each girl, 1 blanket, 1 petticoat, one wrapper.

This clothing has been delivered over to your care, and you will be good enough to withhold the issue of one of the blankets, and such portions of the warm clothing, until cold weather sets in, or occasion renders it necessary.

Captain Gibbs having apportioned two state rooms in the cabin for an hospital for the sick, it has been unnecessary for me to request that one should be especially erected; they will completely secure the twofold and very important object, the isolation of the sick and separation of the sexes.

You are, doubtless, fully alive to the necessity of having the greatest order, cleanliness, and cheerfulness observed among the emigrants during the voyage.

In order to assist you in the maintenance of the former, I have appointed six sirdars, who, should they behave to your satisfaction, are to receive $. 6 each.

Six cooks are also told off at $. 5 each for the voyage; and to aid you in the duties of the hospital, I have appointed a nurse who is to receive $. 6.

Should any of these misbehave, you are at liberty to put others in their places.

I need hardly remark, that free ventilation throughout the deck, care that the emigrant do not be exposed to the evening dew without being well wrapped up, lights to be always kept burning at night, are points worthy of attention, and will tend to make the voyage successful.

Agreeably with the arrangements made with you under the authority of his Excellency the Governor, I shall request Mr. Caird to remunerate you for the voyage at the rate of $. 2 per caput on every cooly landed alive, with a further sum of 100 *l.* (one hundred pounds) to defray your passage to Europe.

I hope to hear from you from the Cape as well as Calcutta, and have now but to wish you and your charge a speedy and pleasant voyage.

I have, &c.

(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting I. A. General.

Wm. Kearney, Surgeon Superintendent,
Ship "White Eagle."

— No. 25. —

(No. 61.)

No. 25. Governor Wodehouse to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 25 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Government House, Georgetown, 25 May 1858.

My Lord, (Received, 15 June 1858.)

IN connexion with my Despatch, No. 56* of the 10th instant, I beg leave to transmit the copy of a letter, which has by this mail been forwarded to Mr. J. G. Austin, and which will, I trust, meet with your Lordship's approval. Trusting that Mr. Austin's mission will meet with your Lordship's cordial support,

* P. 41.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Enclosure in No. 25.

Encl. in No. 25.

Sir, 25 May 1858.

THE Combined Court having voted a salary of 1,500*l.* per annum, exclusive of travelling expenses, for the payment of an officer to be employed in China for the promotion of emigration to this colony, I am directed by the Governor to transmit, for your information and guidance, copies of the correspondence which has passed with Her Majesty's Government upon the subject, and in which you have been nominated for the service.

You are so well acquainted with the whole matter, that his Excellency thinks it unnecessary to furnish you with any further instructions as to the general object of your mission. He relies upon your using every exertion to submit for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government such proposals for the establishment of a permanent system of immigration to this colony as ought to satisfy the requirements of all reasonable and right-thinking men.

You will bear in mind especially that foreign nations now have recourse to Chinese emigration to a great extent, and will probably continue to do so; that whatever may be the abuses with which their operations are attended, we have no wish to share in them.

Above all, we desire to secure the introduction of a large proportion of females, and to take care that every emigrant shall leave China with his own free will, and with a full knowledge of the terms of his undertaking.

Your appointment will take effect, and your salary will commence, from the 1st July next, up to which time you will be considered as on leave of absence as Immigration Agent General; and as it is not intended that your employment in China shall be of any long duration, you will be considered as entitled, on its termination, to resume your former office.

Arrangements have been made, through the British Guiana Bank, to enable you to draw bills upon Messrs. Smith, Payne & Smith for your salary as it becomes due, as well as for the amount of your travelling expenses from the date of your leaving England for China. Whenever you have occasion to draw upon Messrs. Smith, Payne & Smith, you will take care at the same time to forward proper accounts and vouchers, as far as practicable, for the expenditure to me; and the Governor has full confidence that you will incur no expense which you do not consider essential to the objects of your mission.

In conclusion, I am to state that his Excellency hopes that you will not delay your departure beyond the middle of August, except at the desire of the Secretary of State, to whom, of course, before leaving England, you will apply for any further instructions with which his Lordship may be pleased to furnish you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *William Walker,*
Government Secretary.

J. Gardiner Austin, Esq.
Immigration Agent General of British Guiana.

— No. 26. —

(No. 64.)

No. 26. Governor Wodehouse to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 5 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Government House, Georgetown, 5 June 1858.
(Received, 3 July 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 28, 29 July 1858, p. 173.)

I HAVE the honour to forward the reports of the Immigration Agent General and of the Health Officer upon the ship "Cambodia," lately arrived with immigrants from Calcutta.

1.
2.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Your Lordship will observe that the deaths which occurred on the voyage are attributed mainly to the fact that cholera prevailed in the depôt at the time of the embarkation of the people; but I confess I very much doubt if the emigration officers at Calcutta are on that account fairly liable to blame. The fact is, that Bengal appears to be never quite free from the disease, and that therefore to insist upon perfect health at the depôt would amount to a stoppage of immigration. It is true that the planters complain loudly of any apparent want of care, but it is equally true that they are ready to remonstrate against any undue precautions tending to deprive them of a supply of labour, and I think the Emigration establishment at Calcutta must be allowed a very free exercise of their discretion.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Encl. 1, in No. 26.

Enclosure 1, in No. 26.

Sir, Immigration Agent General's Office, 26 May 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the arrival of the ship "Cambodia," N. W. Paige, Commander, from Calcutta, after a passage of 101 days, with

Men	145
Women	110
Boys	20
Girls	19
Infants	17
TOTAL	311

equal to 274½ statute adults.

Although the mortality among the emigrants on board the "Cambodia" has been greater than in any case since the arrival of the "Merchantman," in May 1857, it is, nevertheless, a matter of congratulation that more did not succumb to the fatal disease, which, it appears, prevailed up to a certain period of the voyage.

Embarked at Calcutta:

Men	156
Women	120
Boys	24
Girls	24
Infants	6
TOTAL	330

to which add births on the voyage, six boys and six girls; in all 342.

Died at Sea:

Men	11
Women	10
Boys	4
Girls	5
Infants	8
TOTAL	38

Sent to Hospital:

Men	4
Women	1
Girls	1
TOTAL	6

Returned from Hospital:

One Girl.

Sen

Sent to Estates:

Men	141
Women	109
Boys	20
Girls	19
Infants	17
TOTAL ALLOTTED	306

I refer to cholera, which, as will be seen from the Health Officer's return, carried off nine of the emigrants; the first case occurring immediately after the embarkation, and the last death noted as cholera being on the 27th of February; the subsequent fatal cases are classed as diarrhœa and dysentery, which can be viewed only as a modified continuation of the former disease. From the statements of Capt. Paige, Dr. Rivers, and one of the return coolies, it would appear that cholera had broken out at the depôt prior to the sailing of the ship. In short, they do not hesitate to say that some of the emigrants embarked with it, and this would indeed be corroborated by the fact already mentioned, that the first case showed itself immediately after embarkation.

The captain and surgeon superintendent state, that the Officiating Emigration Agent (Mr. Caird had gone into the country for a few days) and the Protector of Immigrants were aware of the danger they were in, and urged upon Capt. Paige to sail without delay.

Nothing seems to have been wanting on board the "Cambodia" that could tend to promote the comfort of the people throughout the voyage.

They expressed themselves well satisfied with the treatment they received; and so far as I could see, the provisions of the charterparty had been fully carried out. It is, therefore, but natural to suppose that the sickness on the voyage was, in a great measure, the consequence of the state in which the people were embarked.

There are, however, two points which it is not at all impossible may have had some influence on the health of the emigrants.

The first is, the use of biscuits, an article which has been lately substituted for choorah, and which, however advisable for return coolies who have been accustomed to it, does not seem to be liked or to agree with those coming from Calcutta.

In their own country they always use choorah, and naturally look for it on board ship. I have been informed by surgeons of ships lately, that the emigrants missed this article of food very much.

On board of the "Cambodia," according to Dr. Rivers, they were constantly asking for choorah; no doubt one of the reasons for its being done away with is, that when allowed to remain over night, and used in the morning, it is in a sour state, and therefore injurious; but this the surgeon could, with ease, have prevented. The second point to which I would respectfully refer to, as operating very materially on the health of the emigrants, is the situation of the privies.

On board the "Cambodia" the old system was adopted of leaving them entirely inside, giving rise to a foul smell, which cannot do otherwise than foster sickness, whilst in the emigrant ships of late they have been so contrived as to project outside the vessel; and whether attributable to that or not, it is a fact that on board those ships the mortality has been comparatively small.

Of the immigrants sent to the colonial hospital from the "Cambodia," one was returned before the distribution, leaving only five cases, of which but two are serious.

The people were allotted to estates, as per memorandum annexed, in accordance with the instructions of the Governor.

Both the surgeon and commander of the ship seem to have been unremitting in their efforts to promote the comfort of the emigrants, and being satisfied that the terms of the charterparty had been fully complied with, I issued the customary certificate for the payment of the bounty.

I have, &c.

The Honourable
the Government Secretary.

(signed) *C. Williams*,
Acting Immigration Agent General.

BRITISH GUIANA.

SUMMARY of Allotments of Coolies, ex "Cambodia," 19 May 1858.

No.	Estate to which allotted.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	TOTAL.
1	Zelandia	14	11	3.	1	- -	29
2	Cullen	10	8	3	2	- -	23
3	Caledonia	12	10	- -	- -	2	24
4	Hamburg and Sophinburg	14	11	2	- -	1	28
5	Friendship	13	8	2	- -	2	25
6	Palmyra	14	8	1	2	2	27
7	Success (Lequan)	14	8	1	- -	- -	23
8	Maryville	13	11	- -	6	1	31
9	Belle Plaine	10	8	- -	2	2	22
10	Golden Fleece	10	8	4	2	2	26
11	Enterprize	9	9	2	3	3	26
12	Zorg	8	9	2	2	2	22
	TOTAL	141	109	20	19	17	306

Encl. 2, in No. 26.

Enclosure 2, in No. 26.

Port of Georgetown, Demerary, 25 May 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Ship "Cambodia," which arrived here on the 16th instant, 102 days from *Calcutta*, having touched at *St. Helena* (20 April) for one day.

Master's name, N. W. Paige.
Surgeon's name, R. Rivers.
Quarantine, none recommended.
Number of crew - - - - - 30

Registered tonnage - - - - 914
Passengers' deck, 132 feet by 32 feet; height, 7 feet.

NUMERAL LIST.

Emigrants.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	TOTAL.
Embarked on the 31st January 1858	156	120	24	24	8	11	343
Died on the voyage	9	10	4	5	4	4	38*
Born on the voyage	- -	- -	- -	- -	4	2	6
Arrived in port	145	110	20	19	8	9	311
For hospital	4	1	- -	1	- -	- -	6†
For immediate distribution	141	109	20	18	8	9	306

* These 38 deaths include two infants born on board.—*See* Birth List.
† Of these six, a girl returned before distribution.

CONDENSATION

CONDENSATION of SURGEON'S WEEKLY ABSTRACTS.

Number of week	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.	XIII.	XIV.	XV.
Number of sick	18	26	30	28	19	21	22	17	17	14	12	13	14	12	11
Number of deaths	5	2	2	6	1	3	2	2	6	3	1	–	1	–	1
Cause of deaths	Chol.	Chol. Diarrh.	Chol.	Chol. Dysen.	Dysen.	Diarrh. Dysen.	Dysen.	Diarrh. Dysen.	Diarrh. Partu-rition.	Diarrh. Fever.	Anœ-mia.	–	Fever	–	Dysentery.
Latitude	20° N.	9° N.	2° S.	7° S.	14° S.	25° S.	30° S.	32° S.	35° S.	26° S.	18° S.	11° S.	2° S.	3° N.	Demerary.

GENERAL ABSTRACT of SURGEON'S JOURNAL.

Taken on Board.	Sick.	Since Sick.	Total Sick.	Cured.	Dead.	Remaining.	Chief Diseases.
Men	–	–	46	33	9	4	Cholera, Diarrhœa, and Dysentery.
Women	–	–	34	23	10	1	
Boys	–	–	15	8	7	–	
Girls	–	–	24	14	10	–	
Infants	–	–	3	–	2	1	
TOTAL	–	–	92	48	38	6	

DEATH LIST of Ship "Cambodia," arrived at *Demerara* 16th May 1858, from *Calcutta*.

No.	Name.	Age. M.	Age. F.	Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	Date of Death.	Remarks.
		Yrs.	Yrs.			1858:	
1	Leelo	7	–	Cholera	18 hours	3 Feb.	
2	Shaum	12	–	ditto	10 „	4 –	
3	Lallmeney	–	22	ditto	18 „	5 –	
4	Goosai Doss	3	–	Dysentery	2 days	6 –	
5	Bamee	–	7	Diarrhœa	3 „	7 –	
6	Nundo Loll (male infant).	9 mths.	–	ditto	2 „	8 –	
7	Rothalmoney	–	48	Cholera	½ „	14 –	Seized 11 days after leaving the river, and died within 12 hours.
8	Ootim Sirdar	32	–	ditto	5 „	19 –	Ditto - as to day of attack.
9	Hooray	–	32	ditto	9 hours	20 –	
10	Sadoo's infant (female)	–	–	Sudden death	–	–	Died immediately after birth. Mother died eight days after. *See* below.
11	Saum	11	–	Cholera	18 hours	22 Feb.	18 days after leaving the river.
12	Rathun	52	–	Dysentery	3 days	24 –	
13	Mondoo	–	6	Cholera	4 „	27 –	22 days after leaving the river.
14	Bindee	–	30	ditto	1 „	27 –	23 days after coming to sea, died in 24 hours.
15	Rassie	–	36	Dysentery	3 „	27 –	
16	Sadoo	–	25	ditto	13 „	28 –	*See* Birth List.
17	Mahommed Ali	27	–	Drowned	–	3 Mar.	Fell overboard; wind very strong.
18	Dookun		–	Dysentery	8 days	5 –	An emaciated man.
19	Kalee's infant (female)	–	–	–	–	7 –	Died immediately after birth.
20	Ombeeka	–	8 mths.	Anœmia	–	13 –	Mother had no milk.
21	Soobul	45	–	Diarrhœa	3 days	14 –	

(*continued*)

No.	Name.	Age. M.	Age. F.	Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	Date of Death.	Remarks.
		Yrs.	Yrs.			1858:	
22	Toonah	–	9 mths.	Diarrhœa	3 „	14 March	
23	Kanhie	3	–	Dysentery	12 „	16 –	
24	Dooliah	–	11	ditto	9 „	—	
25	Seeboo	9	–	ditto	4 „	22 –	
26	Taree	–	29	Parturition	6 „	29 –	Uterine hœmorrhage.
27	Takoor	18	–	Diarrhœa	16 „	30 –	
28	Ogree	–	27	ditto	8 „	–	Had a miscarriage two days before attack.
29	Bhoobun	–	8 mths.	ditto	6 „	–	Mother had no milk.
30	Kheenie	–	34	Anasarca	6 „	31 –	
31	Doorputty	–	6	Diarrhœa	40 „	23 –	
32	Kisnee	–	5	ditto	6 „	1 April.	
33	Lulleet	30	–	ditto	15 „	5 –	
34	Gyah	–	2	Anasarca	6 „	7 –	
35	Callichum	27	–	Fever	8 „	10 –	
36	Goorabee	–	5 mths.	Anœmia	7 „	14 –	
37	Soobaree	–	21	Fever	11 „	29 –	
38	Modhoo	30	–	Dysentery	10 „	13 May.	
	Died in Harbour:						
39	Randee's (male infant)	2 days	–	Sudden death	–	18 May.	

Birth List.

Mother's Name.	Sex of Child.	Date of Birth.	Result.
Angussio	Male	12 February 1858	Mother and child doing well.
Modhoo	ditto	14 – –	Ditto - ditto - ditto.
Sadhoo	Female	20 – –	Child died immediately. Mother died 28th February. *See* Death List.
Soometry	Male	22 – –	Mother and child doing well.
Kalee	Female	7 March –	Child died immediately.
Randee	Male	16 May –	

Hospital List.

Name.	Age. M.	Age. F.	Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	General Treatment.
Khadaroo	24	–	Dysentery	28	Sulph. copper and opium.
Redoy	26	–	ditto	3	Ditto - ditto.
Laloo	–	45	Anasarca	15	Diaphoretic mixt. and laxatives.
Lachun	40	–	ditto	15	Ditto - ditto.
Goorabee*	–	2½	Fever	20	Quinine.
Doobray	22	–	Diarrhœa	2	Sugar of lead and opium.
Anundee	–	22	Parturition	3	Castor oil.

* Goorabee brought back from, by the mother, before distribution.

Summary.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	343	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	31·14
Total number sick, as per general abstract	122	Daily average of people sick, 10; per-centage thereof	2·91
Total number of deaths	38	Highest number sick in any one day	18
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	11·07	Lowest number ditto - ditto	3

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

Surgeon gives over no diary of occurrences.
Medical journals kept with regularity and accuracy.
Provisions and water very good.
Vessel lofty between decks; has 23 side ports and four stern ports; four fixed iron ventilators; three windsails constantly going; two wooden fixed ventilators, and an extra hatch always open just in front of the poop.
People arrive in excellent health and condition, with a very small number for hospital. *See* Hospital List.
One sailor died of cholera, and there were several other cases among the crew which recovered. Crew all suffered from diarrhœa after being 10 days at sea.
Dr. Rivers left this colony in August 1852, with return coolies on board the ship "Sandford," and lost only 13 on the voyage.
Captain Paige reports that cholera was fatal in the emigration depôt at Garden Reach, while he was embarking his people. This is also corroborated by Fullbeseeh, a return cooly woman.
At the end of the death list, I find the following note by Dr. Rivers.
"It will be seen by this list, that out of 16 cases of cholera, nine died from the 3d to 29th February of that disease. Cholera, it appears, had broken out in the depôt at Calcutta, just before the embarkation of the emigrants, which accounts for the disease having been brought on board with them. Of the infants four died, not from disease so much as the want of nourishment from their mother. One poor man fell overboard and was drowned." *See* Death List, case No. 17.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone,*
Health Officer.

— No. 27. —

(No. 72.)

No. 27. Goveror Wodehouse to Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 8 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Government House, Georgetown, 8 June 1858.

My Lord, (Received, 3 July 1858.)

I HAVE the honour to forward the usual reports upon the barque "Planter," lately arrived with immigrants from the Cape de Verd Islands.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Enclosure in No. 27.

Encl. in No. 27.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
5 June 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Governor, the arrival at this port on the evening of the 29th ultimo, of the barque "Planter," from the Cape de Verdes, after a passage of 12 days, bringing 27 men, 17 women, 5 boys; total, 49 immigrants = 46 ½ statute adults. At their request, and with the sanction of his Excellency, these people were all located at Plantation "Haarlem," to which estate they proceeded on the 2d instant. I have issued the customary certificate for the payment of the freight, which amount has to be repaid by Messrs. Rose and Duff, as attorneys for Plantation "Haarlem," being the contract duty payable on the immigrants, viz. $ 50 per adult.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. E. Williams,*
Acting Immigration Agent General.

The Honourable Wm. Walker,
&c. &c. &c.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara, 2 June 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Barque "Planter," which arrived here on the 29th ultimo, days from *St. Vincent, Cape de Verd Island*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, Wm. Job.
Surgeon's name, Wm. Jones.
Quarantine, none.

Number of crew - - - - - - 14
Registered tonnage - - - - 231
Passengers' deck, 90 feet by 24 feet; 5 feet 7 in. high.

NUMERAL LIST.

Emigrants.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		Total.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 18th April to 1st May - - -	27	17	5	- -	- -	- -	49 *
Died on the voyage - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Born on the voyage - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arrived in port - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
For hospital - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
For immediate distribution -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

* Also two delegates.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked - - 49
Total number sick, as per general abstract - -
Total number of deaths - - - - -
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked - -
Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness - - - - - - -
Daily average of people sick , per-centage thereof - - - - -
Highest number sick in any one day -
Lowest number ditto - ditto - -

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

Surgeon furnishes no diary or journal.
No sickness during the voyage.
Provisions and water good.
Vessel in good order.

(signed). *John M. Johnstone*,
Health Officer.

— No. 28. —

(No. 75.)

No. 28. Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 18 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Government House, Georgetown,
18 June 1858.
(Received 19 July 1858.),

My Lord, (Answered, No. 37, 17 August 1858, p. 174.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's Despatch, No. 32* of the 13th May last. * P. 159.

Having made inquiries respecting the coolies who returned to Calcutta by the "Hamilla Mitchell," I find that they made over their savings according to the arrangement proposed in my Despatch, No. 91 of the 9th July 1857, and that consequently they were entitled on their arrival in Calcutta to be considered as the actual owners of a specified number of dollars, to be converted into rupees at the current rate of exchange, that is, as appears from the letter of the Emigration Agent, two rupees and three annas for each dollar.

I hope your Lordship will allow me to state that I still think my recommendation was a good one. It was made under no impression that the coolies were not perfectly able to manage their own affairs, or that they stood in need of the constant guidance insisted upon by the Government of India. On the contrary, I believe that there will be found among them those, the leaders of the others, who well understand that they are attempting to obtain both the security of a bill, and the profit of carrying actual specie. But we are willing to submit to this imposition for the encouragement of immigration; and I think it will be hard if, because Trinidad, acting with injudicious economy, declines to take the same course, we should be exposed to damage, arising out of disputes with the coolies. We shall suffer far greater injury from the stories which will be spread by these people of their having been unfairly dealt with, than can be compensated by the saving of 2,481 rupees.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

— No. 29. —

(No. 78.)

No. 29. Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 19 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Government House, Georgetown,
19 June 1858.
(Received, 19 July 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 49, 17 September 1858, p. 175.)

I HAVE the honour to forward the reports of the Immigration Agent General and of the Health Officer on the ship "Clarendon," which has arrived with immigrants from Calcutta, after losing a great many, chiefly women and infants, on the passage. Great as the mortality has unfortunately been, it cannot, I think, be justly attributed to the fact of these people having emigrated. Cholera, diarrhœa, and dysentery are the great scourges from which Bengal is never free; and I think we may fairly calculate that both in the case of this ship, and in those of the last season, perhaps as many of the coolies would have died if they had remained in their own country. The difference would have been, that in that case they would have received no medical assistance, and would have passed away without notice. In support of this opinion, I would point to the fact, that in the "Clarendon," the great mortality occurred within the first fortnight, before the effects of the voyage could have begun to tell upon them, and that the number of deaths decreased rapidly as the ship reached a cooler latitude.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Encl. 1, in No. 29.

Enclosure 1, in No. 29.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
17 June 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Governor, the arrival at this port on the 6th instant, after a passage of 89 days from Calcutta, of the screw steam ship "Clarendon," bringing 334 immigrants:

	MEN.	WOMEN.	BOYS.	GIRLS.	INFANTS.
	154	111	28	27	14 = 334
Embarked - - -	175	139	36	37	34 = 422
Birth - - - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1
Died at sea - - -	20	27	8	10	24 = 89
					333
Missing - - -	1	1	—	—	—
Arrived - - -	154	111	28	27	14 = 334
Sent to hospital - -	1	3	1	- -	1 = 6
Distributed - - -	153	118	27	27	13 = 328

The above Table shows the number embarked, births and deaths during the voyage, the number sent to the Colonial hospital, and the number allotted to estates.

The mortality during the voyage has been exceedingly heavy; but after the most rigid examination of the ship, questioning of the immigrants, and consideration of every circumstance connected with the voyage, there is nothing to show that there is any blame attributable to the ship or to the surgeon in charge; whilst, on the other hand, everything leads to the conclusion that to the cholera having prevailed (as in the case of the "Bucephalus"), in the early part of the voyage, is to be attributed such heavy mortality. It appears to me much to be regretted that the immigration agent at Calcutta does not forward to this office full particulars connected with the embarkation of the immigrants, such as a certified statement of the number embarked, and the classification.

A nominal list is entrusted sometimes to the surgeon superintendent, at others to the captain, apparently for their own guidance, and without instructions that it shall be delivered to the immigration agent here. I would respectfully suggest that a separate list and full particulars be addressed under cover direct to this office.

By the nominal list of immigrants per "Clarendon," it would seem that one man and one woman are stated as having embarked, and their names down on the list, whereas they could not have done so, as the surgeon superintendent reports that they were not forthcoming when he mustered the people after proceeding to sea. The immigrants per "Clarendon" having expressed themselves satisfied with the treatment they had received, and the terms of the charterparty having been fully carried out, I have issued the customary certificate for payment of the freight.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting Immigration Agent General.

The Honourable
the Government Secretary
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 29.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara, 16 June 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of IMMIGRANTS by the Steam and Sailing Ship "Clarendon," which arrived here on the 6th instant, 89 days from *Calcutta*, having touched at *St. Helena* 11 May (for two days).

Master's name, William Ladds.

Surgeon's name, J. C. A. Reed.

Quarantine, none.

Number of crew - - - - 44

Registered tonnage - - - 802

Passengers' deck, 210 ft. by 29 ft.; 8 ft. 6 in. in height.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on 7th March 1858 - - -	175	139	36	37	22	12	421
Died on the voyage - - - - -	20	27	8	10	12	12	89
Born on the voyage - - - -	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
Missing - - - - - - - -	1	1	–	–	–	–	2
Arrived in port - - - - - -	154	111	28	27	10	4	334
For hospital - - - - - - -	1	3	1	–	–	1	6
For immediate distribution - - - -	153	108	27	27	10	3	328

CONDENSATION OF SURGEON'S WEEKLY ABSTRACTS.

No. of week - - -	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.	XIII.
No. of sick - - - -	17	47	47	32	23	22	21	18	21	21	14	13	12
No. of deaths - - -	9	22	16	5	6	7	7	4	3	2	1	3	4
Cause of deaths - - -	- - - - - Cholera, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Fever.												
Latitude - - - -	11° 43 N.	1° 20' S.	8° 46' S.	18° S.	26° S.	31° S.	35° S.	26° S.	17° S.	12°	4° S.	4° N.	Demerara.

GENERAL ABSTRACT OF SURGEON'S JOURNAL.

Taken on Board.	Sick.	Since Sick.	Total Sick.	Cured.	Dead.	Remaining.	CHIEF DISEASES.
Men - - - - -	–	–	90	69	20	1	Cholera, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Fever.
Women - - - -	–	–	51	21	27	3	
Boys - - - -	–	–	29	20	8	1	
Girls - - - - -	–	–	22	11	10	1	
Infants - - - -	–	–	24	–	24	–	
TOTALS - - -	–	–	216	121	89		

DEATH

BRITISH GUIANA.

DEATH LIST of Steamer "Clarendon," as extracted from Medical Journals.

NAME.	Age. M.	Age. F.	DISEASE.	No. of Days Sick.	Date of Death.
					1858:
Oognie	–	33	Diarrhœa	3	10 March.
Tameea	–	16	Cholera	2	10 –
Boodhy	–	6	Diarrhœa	2	12 –
Jungaully	9	–	ditto	2	12 –
Pooloo	–	–	ditto	2	12 –
Baboo	–	2½	ditto	3	14 –
Pullanie	–	–	Debility	2	14 –
Gunneer Sing	33	–	Cholera	2	14 –
Subochunny	–	19	ditto	2	14 –
Kinol	–	27	ditto	1	15 –
Mogin	–	11	ditto	1	15 –
Dooknea	–	34	ditto	1	15 –
Ghoonan	–	21	ditto	2	16 –
Tareea	–	20	ditto	1	16 –
Lovemony	–	20	ditto	1	17 –
Ranoo	30	–	ditto	1	18 –
Bhoodny	–	26	ditto	1	18 –
Lookomony	–	33	ditto	1	18 –
Bidhoo	–	7	ditto	1	18 –
Seed-am or Mohun Sing	37	–	Debility	3	18 –
Sengra	48	–	Dysentery	2	19 –
Sandhoo	–	50	Cholera	2	19 –
Nangra	–	–	ditto	1	19 –
Kunnoo	–	–	Debility	3	20 –
Lithwa	6	–	Diarrhœa	6	21 –
Chand	–	32	Cholera	3	21 –
Ramchurn	–	–	ditto	11	21 –
Bheem	37	–	ditto	2	21 –
Radhaa	–	29	ditto	2	21 –
Bowanny	–	7	ditto	2	21 –
Ramchurn or Dinnoo	5	–	Diarrhœa	11	21 –
Bhonoo	27	–	Cholera	3	22 –
Minghee	–	17	ditto	2	22 –
Soma	–	–	Diarrhœa	2	22 –
Deena	–	–	ditto	2	22 –
Peeanie	–	15	Cholera	2	22 –
Gondomie	–	–	Debility	5	24 –
Leetho	5	–	Diarrhœa	2	24 –
Mohun Sing	–	–	Cholera	2	24 –
Jobee	–	7	Diarrhœa	1	24 –
Muthma	–	20	ditto	9	25 –
Dhurun	16	–	Cholera	5	24 –
Bassdha	–	–	Debility	1	25 –
Huttee Sing	26	–	Fever	8	26 –
Nanee	27	–	Cholera	2	26 –
Gomhourrie	37	–	ditto	6	28 –
Thibowen	34	–	ditto	2	28 –
Ruthnee	–	14	ditto	8	29 –
Dhanar Ran	34	–	Dysentery	5	30 –
Doolalie	–	–	Debility	1	30 –
Mohit	24	–	Diarrhœa	14	4 April.
Fangoo	–	–	ditto	8	4 –
Thunneeo	–	4	ditto	9	5 –
Beedassie	–	–	Debility	1	7 –
Dabwa	7	–	Diarrhœa	23	8 –
Kummulhie	–	6	ditto	10	8 –
Manick	–	48	ditto	9	9 –
Lockhee	–	46	ditto	2	10 –
Goorochurn	–	–	Debility	4	12 –
Lomum	–	8	Fever	27	14 –
Lamboo	–	–	Debility	3	15 –
Nunkoo	–	–	ditto	2	16 –
Madhoo	–	25	Diarrhœa	2	17 –
Kinreen Bux	–	–	Fever	13	18 –
Eavary	–	–	Debility	1	18 –
Hama	–	39	Diarrhœa	14	22 –

NAME.	Age. M.	Age. F.	DISEASE.	No. of Days Sick.	Date of Death.
					1858:
Dhooknee	–	25	Fever	13	22 April.
Lobun	–	50	Diarrhœa	9	22 "
Moonah	–	2	ditto	2	22 "
Punan	–	–	ditto	2	22 "
Dunnooh	–	–	ditto	3	23 "
Buckrah	no sex marked		Debility	1	24 "
Infant girl born on board	–	–	ditto	–	29 "
Koylee	–	12	Dysentery	10	29 "
Doleel	20	–	Fever	4	29 "
Nathumna	–	4	Diarrhœa	11	1 May.
Subodhunny	–	34	Debility	14	4 "
Fullany	48	–	Fever	3	5 "
Dukhur	–	–	Debility	2	7 "
Rughoo	3	–	ditto	2	9 "
Haradhun	34	–	Fever	30	10 "
Kumchurn	–	–	ditto	2	10 "
Lakhee Ram	46	–	ditto	13	18 "
Loveemoney	–	–	Debility	5	25 "
Radhaa	–	45	Diarrhœa	13	30 "
Reedhur	17	–	Dysentery	3	30 "
Kathick	20	–	ditto	34	3 June.
Juggernauth	8	–	ditto	5	4 "
Sookta	35	–	Fever	26	5 "

Birth List.

MOTHER'S NAME.	Sex of Child.	Date of Birth.	RESULT.
Not entered in journal	Female	22 March 1858	Child died 24 April 1858.

Hospital List.

NAME.	Age. M.	Age. F.	DISEASE.	No. of Days Sick.	GENERAL TREATMENT.
Lutchmun	26	–	Abscess	18	Incision and poultices; wine and soup.
Tancoree	–	16	Dysentery	9	Sulph. copper; sago and wine.
Oonee	–	25	ditto	19	Nit. argent.
Poonah	6	–	Cancrum oris	5	Gargles; nit. argent.
Choytee, mother of the sick boy Poonah. Ooney takes her infant girl.					

Summary:

Gross number of emigrants embarked	421	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	41·20
Total number sick, as per general abstract	216	Daily average of people sick, 11; per-centage thereof	2·56
Total number of deaths	89	Highest number sick in any one day	20
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	21·11	Lowest number in any one day	4

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GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

The Surgeon hands over no "Diary," properly so called.

The medical journals very voluminous, not only in consequence of the large amount of sickness and mortality, but by reason of the long daily details of almost every case of disease.

The people were embarked on the 7th March, and by the 24th of same month there had occurred forty-one deaths. The cause of this fearful mortality is very apparent. Before embarkation they were already infected with the choleraic poison. Dr. Reid reporting verbally that on visiting the depôt at Garden Reach, he heard Mr. Eales, the Acting Emigration Agent, inquire of one of the attendants how they had been during the night before, the reply was "Very well, Sir; only three deaths!" and the rejoinder was "Do you call that doing well?"

The last case of cholera which terminated fatally occurred on the 29th March, after which date Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Fever, continued throughout the voyage.—*See* Death List.

Provisions and water very good.

The people that do arrive are in excellent condition.

The ship is clean, and has, apparently, abundant means of ventilation. It is built in three compartments, and has

2 Large air shafts in the after compartment.
2 Do. do. in the middle compartment, and two wind-sails.
2 Do. do. in the forward compartment, and one wind-sail.
10 Side ports in the after compartment.
30 Do. in the middle compartment.
12 Do. in the forward compartment.

The hospital is built on deck, seven feet in height, fifteen feet square, with four doors and five side ports for ventilation.

It is but fair to add that the ship "Fulwood," with coolies from India, had touched at St. Helena a few days before this ship, and had then lost as many people.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone,*
Health Officer.

— No. 30. —

No. 30. Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 24 June 1858.

(No. 81.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Government House, Georgetown,
24 June 1858.
(Received, 19 July 1858.)

My Lord. (Answered, No. 39, 18 August 1858, p. 174.)

I HAVE the honour to request that your Lordship will be good enough to order the necessary arrangements to be made for providing this colony with 4,300 Indian immigrants in the season of 1858–59.

I shall be in a position to pay the passage-money for all these people as they arrive, as the applicants have engaged that, in the event of our being again unable to raise a loan, they will themselves pay in cash; and an Ordinance for giving legal effect to that undertaking will very shortly be submitted for your Lordship's approval.

I have also to add that a decided preference is given to coolies from Calcutta, and to beg that under no circumstances may more than 2,350 be sent from Madras.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

— No. 31. —

No. 31. Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 24 June 1858.

(No. 83.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Government House, Georgetown,
24 June 1858.
(Received, 19 July 1858.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Reports of the Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer upon the barque "Hopewell," which arrived here lately with liberated Africans from St. Helena.

1.
2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 31.

(No. 228.)

Immigration Agent General's Office,
8 June 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the arrival at this port on the 1st instant, after a passage of 28 days from St. Helena, of the barque "Hopewell," bringing 131 liberated Africans, of whom only five were females.

No deaths occurred during the voyage, and the people arrived in excellent health and spirits, and will doubtless prove a very valuable acquisition on those estates to which the have been allotted.

The accommodations for the people were excellent, and every care seems to have been shown them by both the captain and surgeon superintendent; I have, therefore, issued the customary certificate to that effect.

The distribution was made in accordance with his Excellency's instructions.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Williams,*
Acting Immigrant Agent General.

The Hon. William Walker,
Government Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 31.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the barque "Hopewell," which arrived here on the 1st instant, 28 days from *St. Helena*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, Joseph Barron.	Number of crew - - - - - - 22
Surgeon's name, S. L. Crane, M.D.	Registered tonnage - - - - - 481
Quarantine, none recommended.	Passengers' deck, 105 ft. by 27½ ft.; 6 ft. 6 in. high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	TOTAL.
Embarked on the 4 May 1858 - - -	126	5	- -	- -	- -	- -	131
Died on the voyage -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Born on the voyage -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arrived in port - -	126	5	- -	- -	- -	- -	131
For hospital - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
For immediate distribution	126	5	- -	- -	- -	- -	131

* CONDENSATION OF SURGEON'S WEEKLY ABSTRACTS.

No. of week - - - - - - - -	I.	II.	III.	IV.
No. of sick - - - - - - - -	- -	- -	3	-
No. of deaths - - - - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Cause of death - - - - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Latitude - - - - - - - -	9° 42′ 3″	0° 54′ 8″	2° 48′ N.	7° N.

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GENERAL ABSTRACT OF SURGEON'S JOURNAL.

Taken on Board.	Sick.	Since Sick.	Total Sick.	Cured.	Dead.	Remaining.	CHIEF DISEASES.
Men	–	–	3	3	–	–	Injuries.
Women	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Boys	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Girls	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Infants	–	–	–	–	–	–	
TOTAL	–	–	3	3	–	–	

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	131	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	–
Total number sick, as per general abstract	–	Daily average of people sick , per-centage thereof	–
Total number of deaths	–	Highest number sick in any one day	–
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	–	Lowest number ditto - ditto	–

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

No sickness during the voyage. Three cases of slight injuries.

People arrive in good health and condition.

Provisions and water good.

Vessel clean and beautifully ventilated, having 24 scuttles in the hold, and two large stern ports. A large well-constructed privy on each side the main deck, kept quite clean.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone,*
Health Officer.

EXTRACT FROM MEDICAL JOURNAL.

"June 1st.—The pilot came on board at 7½ a. m. The ship came to an anchor in Demerara River at 5½ p. m., and was immediately visited by the Health Officer and Immigration Agent, who expressed themselves pleased with the appearance of the Africans, and the condition of the ship. The voyage has thus come to a conclusion."

"SUMMARY.

"In taking a retrospective view of the voyage, I cannot but regard it with feelings of satisfaction. The Africans have gradually improved in condition and civilisation. No sickness has at any time appeared among them. Discipline has been carefully maintained and perfected. The provisions have been of the first quality, and have been issued with great exactness and regularity. The Africans have been happy, orderly, and contented, well pleased with every thing relating to their treatment, provision, &c. Great care has been taken to cultivate in them habits of order, regularity, cleanliness, and industry, and in their management every thing has as far as possible been reduced to a system that might insensibly unite itself with the routine of their daily life. In conclusion, I may add, that I do not doubt but that the training they have been subject to, however short and imperfect it may have been, will be visible in their future conduct and usefulness to the colony; for it has been found in the Australian emigration that the usefulness of the emigrant is much affected by the maintenance of proper discipline during the voyage.

(signed) "*S. Leon Crane,* M.D.
"Surgeon Superintendent."

— No. 32. —

(No. 88.)

No. 32.
Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P.
7 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Government House, Georgetown, 7 July 1858.
(Received, 2 August 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 48, 13 September 1858, p. 175.)

WITH reference to your Lordship's Despatch, No. 15* of the 1st April last, I have the honour to submit for your approval, an Ordinance, No. 17† of 1858, "for the Encouragement of Immigration from China," in which are incorporated almost without alteration, all the sections proposed by the Emigration Commissioners. In the 11th section, corresponding with the 7th of their draft, we have substituted "Stipendiary or special justice" for "Two justices," for the reason that since 1856 the stipendiary magistrates have each exercised the powers previously held by two justices, and that it has always been held desirable to withdraw cases between immigrants and their employers from the adjudication of unpaid justices.

* P. 147.

† *Vide* Appendix, No. 8, p. 509.

Your Lordship will perceive that the 2d, 7th, 8th, and 9th sections have been added, and the form of contract altered by the Court of Policy, for the reasons given in a letter which I have addressed to the gentlemen who proposed to carry out this undertaking, of which a copy is enclosed.

I sincerely hope that the Ordinance will, in its present form, meet with your Lordship's approval, and that you will be pleased to recommend it for Her Majesty's confirmation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

P.S.—We have not rendered applicable to these people section 61 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1854,‡ as other provision was made by section 8 of Ordinance No. 25 of 1856.‡

‡ *Vide* Papers presented by Command, Aug. 1857, pp. 418 & 438.

Enclosure in No. 32.

Encl. in No. 32.

Government House, Georgetown,
6th July 1858.

Gentlemen,

I BEG to forward for your information some copies of the Ordinance "for the Encouragement of Immigration from China," which has just been passed by the Court of Policy, and will be transmitted by this mail for the approval of the Secretary of State, and at the same time I should wish to offer some explanation of the few points of difference to be found between this Law and the Draft Bill prepared by the Emigration Commissioners, which have been introduced for the purpose of ensuring the safe and successful working of the scheme here, without, it is hoped, interfering in any undue manner with the just rights of the gentlemen who have agreed to contribute for the introduction of Chinese into this colony. We have thought it right to guard against possible loss to the colony, arising out of any failure of funds on the arrival of the people, and likewise to reserve to ourselves that degree of control over their primary allotment, which, looking to the character of the immigrants, would seem to be essential to the safety of the colony; and in legislating with these views we have not lost sight of the memorandum put forth by the subscribers, and to which have been appended the signatures of those prepared to enter into the undertaking. That memorandum proposes, that "on the arrival of the immigrants in the colony, an allotment shall be made by the Governor or by an agent appointed for the purpose," and likewise, that those to whom they may be allotted "shall pay 20*l.* per head for the immigrants, out of which the Governor or agent above-mentioned shall pay the passage money."

It is clear, therefore, that the liability to provide the actual passage money will arise here, not in England; and that a failure, from whatever cause, would throw the immigrants upon the hands of the local government.

It follows that we must secure ourselves from this risk by rendering the applicants positively responsible, and by fixing that responsibility on their real property, lying within the reach of our local courts of law. For that purpose the second section requires proprietors or their attorneys to deliver to the Emigration Commissioners and the Governor, lists showing the number of the immigrants they may each require, and declares that thereupon their estates shall become liable for the charges to be incurred, in the same manner as if they had given promissory notes on account of Indian immigrants indentured to them.

You are perfectly acquainted with the state of our law respecting such notes, and will, I

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hope, be satisfied of the propriety of giving the colony the same security against loss in the case of the Chinese. It is enacted that the lists shall be delivered before the 1st of December next, by that time it will be possible to obtain the signatures to both copies, of those resident in England and those resident here; and the operation ought to be completed before the arrival of any of the Chinese in this colony.

No material alteration has been made in the 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th sections. The three following sections relate to the allotment and to the payment of passage money and any expenses which may be incurred in the colony before the people can be distributed; your memorandum contemplates the performance of these acts either by the Governor or by an agent; but the Legislature has thought fit to vest both in the Governor, and at the same time to protect the rights of the subscribers. You will probably be prepared to admit, that it would not be safe to leave the distribution of large numbers of men of this description altogether in the hands of a private individual, who would necessarily be in no degree responsible for the public safety, who would have no control over the colonial police, and who would consider nothing but the immediate interests of those by whom he was employed.

It is also to be remembered that the law makes the allotment of any of these labourers to a plantation conditional upon the provision of proper residences and hospital accommodation. Of the sufficiency of the provision made, the Government must evidently be the sole judge, and this fact will, I conceive, be admitted as affording strong ground for placing in their hands the distribution of the people on arrival. If the allotment be made by an agent, the Governor may be forced to overrule his act, while as the law stands, he will be able to do all that is needful by simply postponing the allotment until the deficiency shall be made good. You will observe that the Governor is positively bound to assign the labourers to the subscribing proprietors, provided they comply with the conditions of the agreement, and that only on their failure to do so will arrangements be made for providing other employers.

For the purpose of carrying out this plan, the form of contract to be entered into in China has been altered, and it now purports to be an agreement between the labourer and the agent for all the proprietors, binding the former to serve on any plantation to which he may be allotted.

I have only therefore to assure you that in the event of the Ordinance being sanctioned, no pains will be spared for arriving at an equitable distribution between all the applicants.

As in the case of Indian immigrants, the labourers landed from each ship will, as far as practicable, be located in the same part of the colony; and as the number to be allotted to each estate must be regulated by the probable supply for the season, Mr. Gerard should be instructed to forward from time to time to the Government here, full information as to the progress made, and as to the probability of his obtaining the full number applied for, before the close of the season.

I shall forward a copy of the Ordinance and of this letter to the Governor of Trinidad.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Stephen Cave, Esq.
H. E. Crum Ewing, Esq., M.P.
and the other Members of the Chinese Immigration Committee.

— No. 33. —

No. 33.
Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.
24 July 1858.

(No. 94.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown, 24 July 1858.

Sir, (Received, 16 August 1858.)

I BEG leave to acquaint you that I took the earliest opportunity after its receipt of laying before the Court of Policy Lord Stanley's circular Despatch of the 4th June last,* in which his Lordship announced that he had determined to concede to the several West Indian colonies the privilege of employing their own emigration agents, not only at Bombay, but also at the two other Presidencies; a concession which, I need hardly say, has been received here with great satisfaction.

* *Vide* Appendix, No. 3, p. 424.

2. Upon a careful consideration of the several courses which it thus became open to them to adopt, the Court decided that it would be prudent in the first instance to limit our operations to Calcutta, and to make every effort to ensure a continuous and abundant supply of labour from that Presidency. You will, I think, be prepared to admit the wisdom of this course. In respect to Bombay, we have never lost sight of the fact, that the Government of the Presidency openly avowed itself to be opposed to emigration, as not needed by its people, and as hurtful

hurtful to the real interests of that part of India. And although that view was over-ruled by the Supreme Government, we have no good reason to look for success in opposition to the wishes of the local Government. Against the Madras coolies a strong prejudice exists here. Some planters would not employ them on any terms, and the others would only take them if no others could be had. The Court of Policy therefore do not wish to maintain a separate establishment for this colony at that Presidency, although they would feel grateful if the present emigration agent there could be permitted to act for them on the same terms as at present.

3. The Court was unanimously of opinion that as Mr. Caird was intended ultimately to become the agent for the Mauritius alone, it was of the utmost importance that our agent for Calcutta should be appointed at once, with a view to his being made available for the coming season.

4. The salary assigned to the office is 1,000 *l.* a year, an amount which, when viewed in connexion with the expense of living at Calcutta, is, in my opinion, extremely moderate. It has, however, proved sufficient to enable me to obtain the services of Mr. Hunt Marriott, a gentleman whose selection is, I believe, viewed with general satisfaction. He has had the advantage of residing in India; and after being in the Company's service, then in that of Her Majesty's Customs, then for a short time serving as a stipendiary magistrate, he has latterly been a partner in a mercantile house here. At all times he has commanded the respect and confidence of the community, and we expect from him the zealous and judicious promotion of the interests of the colony.

5. Mr. Marriott sails for England by this mail, with the instructions, of which a copy is enclosed; and I have been able to persuade the colonists to avail themselves of the permission given in Mr. Labouchere's Despatch No. 368, of the 8th January last,* and to send with him some six coolies, selected for their intelligence and good conduct, to be employed as delegates for the collection of people.

* P. 122.

6. We are very anxious that Mr. Marriott should reach India as soon as possible; and I beg that, with that view, you will be good enough to authorise the Emigration Commissioners to carry out the necessary arrangements at once, and likewise to direct Mr. Caird to continue to collect people for British Guiana, until informed by Mr. Marriott of his being in a position to relieve him of the duty.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Enclosure in No. 33.

Encl. in No. 33.

Sir, Demerara, 21 July 1858.

In acquainting you that you have been appointed emigration agent for this colony at Calcutta, I am directed by the Governor to convey to you the following instructions.

2. The salary which has been assigned to the office is 1,000*l.* per annum, and is intended to cover all charges which you may incur for your personal maintenance and accommodation in the town of Calcutta, at which of course you will generally reside. Any reasonable expenses which you may incur in travelling on the public service, beyond Calcutta, you will be at liberty to charge in your general account.

3. You will be expected to go to England by the packet of the 25th instant, from which date your salary will begin to run; the cost of the passage of yourself and family from Demerara to England, and from England to Calcutta, will be paid by the colony.

4. As it is of great importance that you should proceed to India as soon as possible, you will lose no time in reporting your arrival to the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, and to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, in order that, if practicable, you may be furnished by them with all necessary credentials and instructions, in time to admit of your sailing by the packet of the 4th September next.

5. The Secretary of State will be requested to order a passage for you, and you will receive from the Land and Emigration Commissioners copies of the charter parties now in use for vessels conveying immigrants to the West Indies; together with such directions in respect to the management of those vessels as they may think fit to issue. Their attention has of late been anxiously turned to the subject of the diet and treatment of the immigrants during

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during the voyage, and you will not fail to co-operate to the utmost with them in any measures calculated to diminish the mortality which has prevailed during the two last seasons. They will also defray the cost of your passage to India, and will furnish you with such letters to the Government of India as will ensure your being supplied, from time to time, with the necessary funds, as well as the co-operation of the public functionaries in different parts of Bengal, whenever you may have occasion to apply to them.

6. You will make it your business while in England to obtain through the instrumentality of the proprietors of large estates in this colony, introductions to some of the principal mercantile houses in Calcutta, from whom no doubt you will be able to obtain valuable assistance.

7. The Court of Policy have determined to send with you to India six natives of that country, who have been recommended as intelligent and trustworthy, to assist you at the outset in obtaining coolies. Their passages to England will be paid for here; and on arriving at Southampton, it will be for you to provide them with board and lodging, under proper supervision, to prevent desertion, until they sail with you for India; the cost of their maintenance and of their passages will be advanced to you by the Emigration Commissioners. You will be enabled, on arriving in India, to ascertain the rates of pay which it will be proper for you to give to these men, who should be sent off with as little delay as possible to their respective homes to collect people; and whatever may be their monthly salaries, it will probably be found politic to give them a small per caput allowance for all the immigrants whom they may respectively bring to you. One of these men, very well recommended, belongs to Nepaul, and states that his countrymen live in great poverty, and would resort freely to Calcutta if assured that they would obtain employment here.

This may very possibly be true, and it will be well for you to apply at an early date to the Government of Bengal for their advice and co-operation in promoting his efforts, and, if necessary, for supplying the people whom he may collect with some small advance so soon as they arrive in British territory.

8. The Governor does not wish to fetter you with any precise and detailed instructions in respect to the general conduct of your operations after your arrival at Calcutta. His Excellency feels that a person employed on such a service, and at such a distance from his employers, must be treated with the utmost confidence, and you have been selected for the office, in the belief, that while from your knowledge of the pressing wants of the colony on the one hand, you will make every effort to supply us with labour, you will not, on the other hand, involve us in lavish and ill-considered expenses. It will not be forgotten here that you will have to contend with active competition; and we shall rely, that while you refrain from taking the lead in adding to the cost of immigration, you will at the same time take care that Demerara is not shut out from the market by her adoption of a too parsimonious course of action.

9. It has been suggested that immigrants might be more readily obtained by the establishment of a branch depôt, at some distance from Calcutta; and likewise by the payment of a small gratuity in cash to those willing to embark. These are points upon which you will have to satisfy yourself, and if necessary, without previous reference to Demerara, to take such action as you may judge best. You are aware of the great importance of introducing a proper proportion of females with the immigrants from any particular district; this has been lately effected to a greater extent than formerly, and in every point of view it is desirable that it should not be lost sight of.

10. You will pay particular attention to the condition of the people while residing in the depôt, before their embarkation. In every case of serious mortality on board the immigrant ships, it would appear that the disease, either cholera or dysentery, has been contracted before the sailing of the ship, and that in some cases it has rapidly disappeared as the vessels entered into a cooler climate. To declare that no coolies should be embarked if there were any cases of cholera in the depôt, would, at Calcutta, be nearly equivalent to a total stoppage of immigration; but you cannot be too careful in preventing the embarkation of any who may at the time show symptoms of diseases of that character.

11. It will be necessary for you to render quarterly accounts of your expenditure in duplicate, one copy to be sent to Demerara, the other to the Emigration Commissioners. You will also send me immediate information of any advance made to you by the Government of India, in order that the amount may be remitted without delay to the Emigration Commissioners.

12. You will not fail to keep the Government here at all times informed of any circumstances of importance bearing upon the subject of immigration; and it will be desirable for you at your leisure, and with due caution, to ascertain the effect upon immigration of the extension of the term of Colonial service from five to ten years, and likewise in what light the people would view a proposal, that after a term of service, they should receive a sum of money or a grant of land, in lieu of any right to a return passage.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker*,
Government Secretary.

Hunt Marriott, Esq, Georgetown.

— No. 34. —

(No 98.)

No. 34.
Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.
7 August 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir. *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
7 August 1858.
(Received, 2 September 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Reports of the Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer, upon the barque "Sylph," lately arrived with 172 immigrants from Madeira.

1.
2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 34.

Encl. 1, in No. 34.

(No. 15.)

Immigration Agent General's Office,
Monday 26 July 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state that the barque "Sylph" arrived at this port yesterday, with Portuguese immigrants from Madeira, after a passage of 17 days.

2. I went on board to-day accompanied by the Health Officer, and examined personally each immigrant, and found them in a healthy condition, and in accordance with the qualifications set forth in No. X. 1857, section 1.

3. There were 74 men, 68 women, 10 boys, and 7 girls, between the ages of 14 and 6 years, and 9 boys and 2 girls, infants, under 6 years of age, together amounting to 172 souls, and 150½ statute adults.

4. There were five other Portuguese who had been before in Demerara and pay their own passage.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James Crosby,*
I. A. G.

The Honourable William Walker,
Government Secretary,
&c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 34.

Encl. 2, in No. 34.

Port of Georgetown, Demerary, 26 July 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the barque "Sylph," which arrived here on the 25th instant, 17 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, Joseph Crouse.
Surgeon's name, Henry Crawford Rodriguez.
Quarantine, none recommended.

Number of crew, 15.
Registered tonnage, 210.
Passengers' deck, 66 ft. by 23 ft., 6 ft. 2 in. high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 7th July 1858	74	68	10	7	9	4	172*
Died on the voyage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Born on the voyage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrived in port	74	68	10	7	9	4	172
For hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
For immediate distribution	4	68	10	7	9	4	172

* Also five people who pay their own passage.

SUMMARY.

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SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	172	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	–
Total number sick, as per general abstract	–	Daily average of people sick—, per-centage thereof	–
Total number of deaths	–	Highest number sick in any one day	–
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	–	Lowest number ditto - ditto	–

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

Surgeon kept no diary or journal. No sickness during the voyage. People arrive in excellent health and condition. Provisions and water very good. Vessel clean and comfortably fitted up.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone,*
Health Officer.

— No. 35. —

(No. 101.)

No. 35. Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. 7 August 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
7 August 1858.
(Received, 2 September 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Reports of the Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer on the ship "R. D. Sheapard," lately arrived with 369 immigrants from Madeira.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Encl. 1, in No. 35.

Enclosure 1, in No. 35.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
6 August 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the ship "R. D. Sheapard" arrived at this port yesterday with Portuguese immigrants from Madeira, after a passage of 19 days.

2. I went on board to-day, accompanied by the health officer, Dr. Johnstone, and inspected personally each immigrant, and found them all in excellent health and spirits, and in accordance with the qualifications required by Ordinance No. X. of 1857, sect. 1.

3. There were 166 men, 110 women, 25 boys, 19 girls, and 24 boys and 20 girls under six years of age, a total of 364 souls and of 298 statute adults; and I have therefore signed the usual certificate for the payment of $10,430 (or 2,172*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*) for the bounty on such immigrants.

4. There were also (5) five other Portuguese who either had been before in Demerara, or on account of their not being within the provisions of the Ordinance, paid their own passage.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James Crosby,*
I. A. G.

The Honourable W. Walker,
Government Secretary.

Encl. 2, in No. 35.

Enclosure 2, in No. 35.

Port of Georgetown, Demerary,
6 August 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the ship "R. D. Sheapard," which arrived here on the 5th instant, 19 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, James Gale.		Number of crew	21
Surgeon's name, Francisco José Prasao.		Registered tonnage	797
Quarantine, none recommended.		Passengers' deck, 284 feet by 25 feet; 7 feet high.	

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	TOTAL.
Embarked on the 15th July 1858	*171	110	25	19	24	20	369
Died on the voyage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Born on the voyage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrived in port	171	110	25	19	24	20	369
For hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
For immediate distribution	171	110	25	19	24	20	369

* On own account, 5 men; making 166 men in Immigration Agent General's return.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	369	Per-centage to deaths to cases of sickness	—
Total number sick, as per general abstract	—	Daily average of people sick—, per-centage thereof	—
Total number of deaths	—	Highest number sick in any one day	—
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	—	Lowest number ditto - ditto	—

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

Surgeon kept no journal. No sickness during the voyage. People all arrived in excellent health and condition, with the exception of a male infant with a scald; the mother prefers taking it with her to her relations rather than go to hospital. Provisions and water very good. Vessel clean and well adapted for the conveyance of emigrants, having a large ventilator fixed through the deck forward. Sixteen side ports, four stern-ports, all open.

John M. Johnstone, Health Officer.

— No. 36. —

(No. 103.)

No. 36. Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. 8 August 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
8 August 1858.
(Received, 2 September 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 54, 29 September 1858, p. 180.)

I LOSE no time in replying to your Despatch, No. 14, of the 2d July last,* received by this mail, calling for explanation upon certain complaints stated by Mr. Caird, to have been made by coolies who have returned to India.

* P. 170.

2. They allege that they are kept waiting unreasonably before getting their back passages; that they are not allowed back passages if they have not saved money; that they have been compelled to enter into indentures for five years; that they lose heavily on the remittance of their savings to India; that wages here are very low. I will reply to those statements in order.

3. As soon as we receive applications for back passages from a number of these people sufficient to load a ship, we at once make arrangements for engaging one; and as soon as she arrives, we do all in our power to dispatch her to her destination. But these people give great trouble; for after having deposited their savings and money for clothing, almost at the last day they refuse to go. When the "White Eagle," the last ship sailed, about 60 acted in this manner.

4. The assertion that we have refused back passages to those who had not saved money, is a mere falsehood; and I doubt if Mr. Caird attached the slightest credit to it when he set it down.

BRITISH GUIANA.

5. In 1853, before my arrival here, an Ordinance was passed by the Court of Policy, permitting indentures for five years, which was disallowed by the Duke of Newcastle. The indentures entered into upon its authority were held to be invalid; and no indenture has since been drawn for a longer term than three years.

6. I have already represented to you that all the dissatisfaction of the coolies in the matter of the remittances of their savings, has arisen out of our being unfortunately ordered to act upon a plan proposed by the Government of Trinidad.

7. Mr. Caird dwells upon the advantages enjoyed by the coolie who goes to the Mauritius, over one that comes to the West Indies, with "the low rate of wages now ruling." I am quite aware that the Mauritius has great general advantages over us; but in the matter of wages, I think we again suffer from being associated with some of the other West Indian colonies. In the enclosure of my Despatch, No. 102, forwarded by this mail, I have entered at length into the question of the wages paid both to the negroes and to the coolies, and have shown that the coolies are enabled to subsist, (while many of them save considerable sums of money,) without performing on an average in a year more than 556 hours of the labour of a negro. And I am in possession of a return showing that the most industrious coolie upon one estate, performed in the year 1856, no less than 1,496 hours of such labour, for which he received $119. 76., while the cost of his food for the year could not certainly have exceeded $ 53. 00. In the face of such facts, I scarcely think that the rate of wages ruling here, can fairly be called low.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

— No. 37. —

No. 37. Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. 6 September 1858.

(No. 110.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
6 September 1858.
(Received, 2 October 1858.)

Sir,

1. 2.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Reports of the Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer, upon the brigantine "Mathilde," lately arrived with immigrants from Madeira.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Encl. 1, in No. 37

Enclosure 1, in No. 37

Immigration Agent General's Office,
18 August 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the brigantine "Mathilde" arrived here on Thursday last the 12th instant, with Portuguese immigrants from Madeira, after a passage of 23 days. They are all in good health and very fine young people.

There were 20 men, nine women, eight boys, two girls, and two infants within the provisions of Ordinance X. 1857, sec. 1, equal to 34 statutable adults, for the passage of whom there is due by the colony 1,190 dollars.

There was also one other Portuguese who had been before to Demerara who paid his own passage, and a boy, a passenger.

The Honourable William Walker,
Government Secretary, &c. &c.

(signed) *James Crosby,*
I. A. G.

Enclosure

Enclosure 2, in No. 37.

Port of Georgetown Demerary,
13 August 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the brigantine "Mathilde," which arrived here on the 12th inst., 23 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, João Marie Bello Mornes.	Number of crew - - - - - 10
Surgeon's name, none.	Registered tonnage - - - - 118
Quarantine, none.	Passengers' deck, 30 ft. by 18 ft.; 7 ft. high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 18th ult. -	20	9	8	2	2	—	41
Died on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Born on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrived in port - - -	20	9 *	8	2	2	—	41
For hospital - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
For immediate distribution -	20	9	8	2	2	—	41

* Also one male adult, who pays his own passage, and a boy, ditto ditto.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked - - 41	Per-centage of deaths to cases of isckness - -
Total number sick, as per general abstract - -	Daily average of people sick —, per-centage thereof - - - - - - - -
Total unmber of deaths - - - - - -	Highest number sick in any one Day - -
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked - -	Lowest number ditto - ditto - - -

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

No sickness during the voyage. People arrive in good health and condition. Provisions and water very good. Vessel clean, and comfortably fitted up.

John M. Johnstone, Health Officer.

— No. 38. —

(No. 114.)

No. 38.
Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.
22 Sept. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
22 September 1858.
(Received, 5 October 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Reports of the Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer, on the brig "Funchal," lately arrived with immigrants from Madeira.

1.
2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 1, in No. 38.

Encl. 1, in No. 38.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
18 September 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the arrival this morning of the brig "Funchal" from Madeira, with immigrants, after a favourable passage of 23 days.

The Immigration Agent General being absent on his official tour, I proceeded on board accompanied by the health officer, and on mustering the people, found that 60 men, 49 women, 11 boys, 5 girls and 10 infants, equal to 135 souls, or 117 statute adults, came within the provisions of Ordinance No. X., anno 1857, sect. 1; and for these, therefore, I have issued the usual certificates.

Besides these, there were also on board, the surgeon, and two other male adults, who paid their own passage; making in all 138 souls, equal to 120 statute adults.

Notwithstanding the unusually close approach of the number of passengers carried to the maximum permitted by law (Ordinance VII., anno 1854, sect. 4), I am happy to bear testimony to the cleanliness and orderly appearance of the vessel and immigrants; and I may also add, to the excellence of the food provided for the latter. As the legal requirements are not very frequently exceeded in these matters, I deem it but just to make due and proper mention of an exception.

I enclose the Health Officer's report,

And have, &c.
(signed) *D. M. Gallagher*,
Acting Sub Immigration Agent,
Demerara and Essequibo.

The Honourable William Walker,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 38.

Encl. 2, in No. 38.

Port of Georgetown, Demerary,
18 September 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the brig "Funchal," which arrived here on the 18th inst., 23 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, Josef Domingos.
Surgeon's name, José Martinez, Vera Cruz.
Quarantine, none.

Number of crew - - - - - 10
Registered tonnage - - - - 127
Passengers' deck, 71 ft. by 18 ft. 8 in.; 8 ft. in height.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 25th August 1858 - - - -	60	49	11	5	3	7	135*
Died on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Born on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Arrived in port - - -	60	49	11	5	3	7	135
For hospital - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	
For immediate distribution -	60	49	11	5	3	7	135

* Also two male adults, who pay their own passage.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked - - 135
Total number sick, as per general abstract - —
Total number of deaths - - - - - —
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked - —
Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness - —
Daily average of people sick—, per centage thereof - - - - - - - - —
Highest number sick in any one day - - —
Lowest number ditto - ditto - - - —

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

No sickness during the voyage. People arrive in good health and condition. Provisions and water very good. Vessel comfortably fitted up, and clean.

John M. Johnstone, Health Officer.

— No. 39. —

(No. 119.)

No. 39.
Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.
30 Sept. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
30 September 1858.
(Received, 1 November 1858.)

Sir,

SOME little time after my return to this colony from leave of absence, I became aware that the Lieutenant Governor had, towards the close of last year, sent out circulars to the Stipendiary Magistrates, calling for their opinions upon the state of the labour market in the colony, as regarded both the creoles and the immigrants; and I beg leave now to submit for your consideration copies of the replies received to each circular, as well as of a report upon them by Mr. J. S. Austin, the Immigration Agent General, and the draft of a Despatch which Mr. Walker intended to have addressed to your predecessor. I likewise add copies of a further correspondence with one of the magistrates, Mr. Carbery,

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You will perceive that there is much unanimity of opinion among the magistrates, with two exceptions, Mr. Carbery and Mr. Humphreys.

Mr. Carbery possesses probably greater abilities than any of our other magistrates, and his views will be found stated with great ingenuity, and in such a manner as to render it difficult for me to combat them in detail, without entering into a most wearisome discussion. I hope, however, that the observations of Mr. Walker and Mr. Austin, coupled with the complete command of the subject possessed by the Emigration Commissioners (to whom, no doubt, these papers will be referred), will be sufficient to satisfy your mind that the objections taken by Mr. Carbery, though very plausible, have no substantial foundation.

His principal endeavour is to show that our Immigration Ordinance, No. VII. of 1854, is, or rather might be made an instrument for greatly oppressing the coolies.

That Ordinance was drawn by me in the early part of 1854, when a residence of nearly 20 years in the East Indies had not only given me a full perception of the physical capabilities of the coolies, but had also predisposed me to take a real interest in their welfare. It was discussed in the greatest detail and with excellent temper by the Court of Policy. It was sent home with most detailed explanation with my Despatch, No. 21* of the 7th June 1854; certain alterations were insisted upon by Sir George Grey in his Despatch, No. 33† of the 13th September 1854. They were made, as reported by my Despatch, No. 82‡ of the 10th October 1854, and the Ordinance was confirmed by Sir George Grey's Despatch, No. 53§ of the 15th November 1854, which expressed his satisfaction at finding that it was "in conformity with the views and opinions of Her Majesty's Government." The operation of the law has been carefully watched, and no apparent act of oppression has willingly been permitted to pass unnoticed.

* *Vide* Papers presented by Command, August 1857, p. 159.
† Ditto ditto, p. 54.
‡ Ditto ditto, p. 168.
§ Ditto ditto, p. 59.

Where you have to deal with men, by nature little disposed to labour, and able to subsist with very trifling exertion, who have, with their own consent, been introduced at a heavy cost, with the express object of obtaining labour from them, it is impossible to dispense altogether with the means of compelling them to fulfil their agreement; and I am convinced that the provisions of the Ordinance are not in practice too stringent. To their full extent they cannot be enforced; indeed, the planters have openly urged their inability to claim the full benefit of the law by prosecutions before the magistrates; and have pressed the Government to go further, and to throw upon the coolie, as it were, the burden of proof that he had been industrious, instead of forcing the planter, as at present, to prove the negative.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Such propositions I have always resisted; but I trust that Her Majesty's Government will have sufficient confidence in those administering the affairs of this colony to induce them to leave undisturbed the laws governing the relations between the immigrants and their employers.

I have, &c.
P. E. Wodehouse.

Encl. 1, in No. 39.

Enclosure 1, in No. 39.

Government House, Georgetown, Demerara,
19 October 1857.

Dear Sir,

For some months past complaints have reached me, in the way of conversation, of the great scarcity of labour experienced in all parts of the colony, and of the continual tendency of the creole peasantry to secede from 'estates' cultivation. It is alleged that almost concurrently with the rise of wages, their working time has diminished; showing that, when their earnings reach a certain amount, no inducement will stimulate their exertions beyond that point.

It is of course very important in every way that I should be in possession of correct information upon this vital question, and equally obvious that mere hearsay will furnish no data upon which to base conclusions.

I have therefore to request that you will, without adopting any official forms, make it your business to ascertain, by inquiry in such quarters as in your judgment are best entitled to confidence, what is actually the position of the cultivation of the staple at the present time, compared with what it was, say some 12 months since. Your inquiries will, of course, embrace the difference in money wages paid at the two periods; difference of the quantity of work performed for the same amount; contrast in the condition of the crops on the ground; any remarkable peculiarities in the temper or manners of the people, and also the same, or similar points, relative to the labourers under indenture.

You will observe that what I want are facts; and to be of any value they must be properly authenticated, although, if such be desired, the names of the persons furnishing them will be held in confidence. Extracts from pay-books, or other documentary evidence, of the amounts earned in given periods by the same persons or the same rates at different times, will of course be valuable; and, in general, everything which can place in an uncontrovertible light the actual social position and tendencies of our rural population.

Relying with confidence on your prompt and judicious efforts to give effect to the desire above explained,

I remain, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker,*
Lieutenant Governor.

To the Stipendiary Magistrates.

Encl. 2, in No. 39.

Enclosure 2, in No. 39.

Sir,

19 November 1857.

The reports which are continually reaching the Government in reference to the disposition of the immigrants to evade as much as possible the obligation to labour entered into with their employers, appear to the Lieutenant Governor so serious as to require a special report from the stipendiary magistrates as to the behaviour of the coolies during the last few months. You will be good enough, therefore, to draw up a report on the subject, for the information of his Excellency, at your earliest convenience, giving your views generally also as to the working of Ordinance VII. of 1854, as well in regard to employers as employed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Gardiner Austin,*
Acting Government Secretary.

The Stipendiary Magistrates.

Enclosure 3, in No. 39.

Further Returns connected with Creole Labour.

Returns from Plantations for the Year ending 31st December 1856.

	Year.	Acres of Canes.	Hhds. of Sugar.	Wages.	Wages now Paid. To Creoles.	Wages now Paid. To Portuguese.	Wages now Paid. To Coolies.	Maximum earned by One Field Labourer of each Class. By Creole.	By Portuguese.	By Cooly.	Number of Labourers on Pay List. Creoles. Men.	Women.	Children.	Immigrants. Portuguese.	Coolies.	Remarks, or Variations in the Rate of Wages.
Hoff Van Awrich, Essequibo.	1856	220	285		from 32 to 80 cents per day.	Wood cutters 80 cents per day.	from 24 to 48 cents per day.	80 *cts.*	80 *cts.*	48 *cts.*	–	From 80 to 150				– Wages vary according to the demand. Wages have risen from 50 to 100 per cent. for field labour since November 1855. 23 November 1857. *R. Robson.*
Zeelugt, Essequibo, District (G.)	1856	301			weekly in cash to all except head people, who are paid monthly.			*Dols.* 125. 76		*Dols.* 119. 76	25	23	8		127	– In the columns of maximum earned by our labourers, the sums are confined to resident field labourers of each class. Tradesmen would have a higher amount per annum, task gang labourers a higher still; if their earnings could be arrived at exactly, but that is impossible, as they are here to day and gone to-morrow; and their work is always paid in a lump to their head man. (No signature.)
Golden Fleece	1856															Do not feel myself authorised to give the above information. *T. W. Fowler*, Manager of Golden Fleece. 30 December 1857.
Zorg, Essequibo District (G.)	1856	281	274	*Dols.* 13,622	all alike for field work. An advance of 25 per cent. in 1856 has taken place.			*Dols. cts.* 112 96		*Dols. cts.* 69 76	94	13	42	8	90	– The growing paucity of labour causes a tendency to a proportional increase in the rate of wages. But rarely is a full day's work performed, and the Mondays hardly any work is performed by Creoles. 25 November 1857. *E. Bishop.*
Aurora	1856															– I have no instructions from my employer to answer these questions. 30 November 1857. *Ch. Halsted.*

Returns from Plantations for the Year ending 31st December 1856—*continued.*

	Year.	Acres of Canes.	Hhds. of Sugar.	Wages.	Wages now Paid. To Creoles.	Wages now Paid. To Portuguese.	Wages now Paid. To Coolies.	Maximum earned by One Field Labourer of each Class. By Creole.	Maximum earned by One Field Labourer of each Class. By Portuguese.	Maximum earned by One Field Labourer of each Class. By Cooly.	Number of Labourers on Pay List. Creoles. Men.	Creoles. Women	Creoles. Children.	Immigrants. Portuguese.	Immigrants. Coolies.	Remarks, or Variations in the Rate of Wages.
Ondernuming											—	—				Not being aware of the motive for asking these questions, [illegible] answering them. 24 November 1857. *J. Young.*
L'Union, Essequibo	1856	167	180								80 to 150	—		—	—	*J. E. Newsom.*
Huis T. Dieren											—	—				I beg to state I cannot fill up these without the consent of my employer. *J. D. Fitzpatrick.*
Cullen	1857	180	200	40 *cts.*	32 *cts.*	32 *cts.*	32 *cts.*	40 *cts.*	40 *cts.*	32 *cts.*	111	60	45	35	76	Sometimes labour is scarce, and varies from 32 to 48 cents. Two cents equal 1 *d.* *J. MacNab.*
Spring Garden, District (H.)	1856	180	175	*Dols.* 10,484	This question depends upon the quantity performed by each class of labourers. The Portuguese earn the most.			The Portuguese earn the most			20	17	—	4	59	The rate of wages has increased upwards of 50 per cent. (No Signature.)
Foulis, County of Berbice, District (I.)	1856	165	258	*Dols. cts.* 4815 40	*Dos. cts.* 2495 08	*Dols. cts.* 640 40	*Dols. cts.* 1679 92	*Dol.* 1	32 *cts.*	32 *cts.*	111	70	24	25	67	The wages decreased slightly in June, July, and August, owing to the scarcity of provisions. *J. Chisholm.*
Profit, County of Berbice, District (I.)	1856	95½	47	2337.20	40 *cts.*	—	32 *cts.*	141	—	108. 24	16	9	—	—	51	The estates being principally farmed out in consequence of the utter impossibility of obtaining creole labour to work it; but very small portion of labour is now employed on hire; indeed it could not be had, except for digging trenches, for which work I have to pay from 30 to 50 cents advance. *E. P. Walcott.*

River Berbice, District (I.),
21 November 1857.

Sir,

In reply to your private circular of the 19th ultimo, I have the honour to forward the result of my inquiries with reference to the creole labourers of this district.

From the communication received from the gentlemen in charge of Plantations Everton, Standvastigheid, and Mara, your Excellency will learn that a decided uniformity prevails in all essential particulars with reference to the state of cultivation, and the nature of the creole labour available, although there may be some peculiarities in their local situation and resources of those estates. They are unanimous in reporting—

1. That the present cultivation is inferior to that at the same time last year.
2. That an advance of about 25 per cent. had been made in the amount of wages earned at the two periods.
3. And that at the same time there had been a reduction of the tasks required to be performed of 25 per cent.
4. That higher wages and reduced tasks offer no inducement to increased industry; that there is a general reluctance on the part of the creoles to labour, but unaccompanied by the manifestation of any other unfavourable disposition.

Plantation Everton is a remarkably fine estate, making the largest crops in the county, and under able management. It is situated in the midst of a large resident population of creole and African labourers, and consequently in a most favourable position to command the labour in question.

Such, however, is not the position of Plantation Standvastigheid. This estate is unfortunately situated to command a supply of labour; it may be said to be isolated; it stands alone on the west bank of the river, remote from a resident population, and from other estates. The chief source from whence it is supplied with labour are the villages on the opposite side of the river, who have the choice of the contiguous estates of Friends and Everton, which no doubt they would always prefer, unless some equivalent advantage, in the way of increased wages, could be realised by their crossing the river. The Mara and Ma Retraite estates are also somewhat peculiarly situated; they are at a distance of upwards of 25 miles from town, in the midst of a population attached to the locality, remote from competition, and perhaps more favourably disposed, in reference to estate labour, than the residents in other parts of the district. Taking these circumstances into consideration, I think we may fairly receive the reports from the estates as offering a fair criterion for the whole district.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John M'Swiney,*
Stipendiary Magistrate.

The Honourable W. Walker, &c. &c. &c.

Essequibo, District (H.), 28 November 1857.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's communication of the 19th October 1857, and have to state, for your Excellency's information, that much disinclination exists on the part of those who have the direction of plantations to furnish extracts from their pay-lists or books for the information of Government; and I have, therefore, been unable to procure any documentary evidence in support of the views which I now express, and which are consequently, I am aware, of no value, being only based upon conclusions drawn from general inquiry and observation in some cases. I would observe, that answers to my questions were refused in some cases, and in one or two instances they were given under a promise that no use should be made of them.

I must confess that I do not exactly understand what is meant by "scarcity of labour." That it cannot be procured at the rates at which the cultivators of sugar desire it, is no doubt true; and that the present labouring population is inadequate to the indefinite extension of the present cultivation, must be admitted also.

My remarks, I would observe, are to be understood as having reference to the district in which I reside, rather than to the colony generally, of which I do not presume to speak; and I think that a stranger visiting this district would be at a loss to reconcile the high state of cultivation in which he would find all the plantations, with the complaint of want of labour. Nor would his surprise be diminished if he were informed that, notwithstanding the mortality caused by the cholera this year and the total suspension of labour which ensued upon several estates, the result of the panic which seized the labouring classes, yet that the cultivation of the district had been extended, and that the crop of 1857 was expected considerably to exceed that of 1856. In one instance the front fields have been reclaimed, and cotton planted. On several estates which have large resident gangs, the rate of wages has not increased; on others which, by less judicious treatment, have been almost denuded of a creole population, and where the work is in a great measure performed by task gangs, the higher rates which these people usually receive have led to demands on the part of the resident labourers which it was not always practicable to resist. I learn from the most reliable sources that the cane cultivation is at present everywhere in a satisfactory state, and that the working time of the labourers, as compared with previous years, has not diminished. On one estate where it was lately found necessary, or I should say expedient, to continue boiling sugar during the night as well as day, the labourers willingly performed this arduous duty,—a fact which strongly militates against the supposition that their industry cannot be stimulated by the prospect of increased remuneration. Long experience has proved to me

BRITISH GUIANA.

that statements with regard to high prices of labour must be received *cum grano salis*. When I have heard of high nominal wages being paid, more minute inquiry has enabled me frequently to ascertain that the labour which was said to be so costly was proportionally onerous; and in reality, looking at the time it required for its completion, not high priced. That task-gang, or transient labourers, unattached to estates are obtaining advanced rates of wages for their labour is, I believe, true; but this results from the great competition existing for the services of these people, caused by the extension of the cultivation which is gradually going on.

A day's labour must have some reference to the cost of food and clothing required by him who performs it; and if we remember that almost everything except the air we breathe is highly taxed in this colony, and that provisions, usually high priced, are frequently exorbitantly dear, I think we must conclude that the planters at least obtained at a moderate rate the services of those labourers who are employed in the buildings and in the performance of description of work which is paid for by the day and not by the piece.

One manager informs me that for a day, never less than 12, sometimes 15 hours' work, he pays 2 *s.* to adults, to young persons 8 *d.*, 10 *d.* and 1 *s.*, according to capability. Another, that a day of 14 hours' work he pays 20 *d.*, and to young persons 8 *d.* A third—and this is the usual rule that coolies for a day's work are paid—8 *d.* to 12 *d.*, according to their physical capability or known habits of industry.

On the other hand, I would call your Excellency's attention to the salient fact, established by the enclosed return which is from a planter of long experience in the district, and proves that the prices now paid for field work, within his knowledge, do not materially exceed the rates which were established at the termination of the apprenticeship. The time in which the tasks are said to be performed has reference to the physical capacity of a first-class labourer; and if they are accomplished in a shorter period than was allowed during the apprenticeship, it only proves that the task of the freeman is performed more quickly, because more willingly, than that of the slave used to be.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Carbery.*

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

RATE of WAGES for Labour paid in District (H.).

DESCRIPTION of TASK.	Quantity of Work Performed.	Time taken to perform Task.	Wages Paid.	
		Hours.	*s.*	*d.*
Throwing out canals	2 roods	4	1	4
Digging small drains	25 ditto	5	2	–
Holing cleared land	30 ditto	6	2	–
Shovel-ploughing	50 ditto	4	1	4
Relieving	100 ditto	5	1	4
Supplying	100 ditto	4	1	4
Weeding	100 ditto	5	1	4
Cutting and carrying canes	per punt	5	4	8
Thrashing canes	100 roods	4	1	4
Clearing trenches	25 ditto	5	1	4
Carrying megass	12 hours' work	12	1	–
Supplying mill	9 hours' work	9	1	4

N.B.—This Return is not signed by any one.—*A. F. Gore.*

West Coast District, Berbice,
5 December 1857.

Sir,

IN compliance with the request contained in Mr. Goodman's letter of the 13th ultimo, I have now the honour to enclose a consolidated Return of the rates of wages paid in this district for the various descriptions of field work performed in the colony.

The only data I had for making this return was from that furnished me by Messrs. Chisholm and Walcott, Mr. A. Grant, the manager of Plantation Hope and Experiment having declined

declined to give the information required of him on this subject, and Mr. Sayle, the manager of Plantation Bath, having filled up the forms sent to him, but it would seem, on consideration, has thought proper to withhold them.

The manager of Plantation "Cotton Tree" never received the blank forms addressed to him "on service," and entrusted for delivery to the police at No. VI. station, and the men having been recently removed from that station to others, I have not been able to ascertain with whom the fault of non-delivery lies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. F. Baird,*
Stipendiary Magistrate.

The Honourable
the Acting Government Secretary

RATE of WAGES for Field Work paid in District (I.)

DESCRIPTION of TASK.	Quantity of Work done.	Time taken to perform the Task.	Wages.	
		Hours.	*s.*	*d.*
Throwing out drains	2 to 4 roods	4½	3	–
Digging small drains	22 roods	4½	1	10
Holeing cleared land	25 ditto	4½	2	–
Shovel-ploughing	35 ditto	4½	1	10
Relieving	75 ditto	4	1	6
Supplying	70 to 100 roods	4	1	4
Weeding	Ditto ditto	4	1	4
Cutting and carrying	40 to 60 roods	4½	2	–
Weeding and Thrashing	70 to 100 ditto	4	1	4
Clearing trenches	30 to 50 ditto	4	1	4
Carrying megas	–	7½ to 9	1	4
Supplying mill	–	7½ to 9	1	4

(signed) *A. F. Baird.*

Sir, Leguan, 31 December 1858.

WITH reference to your Despatch of the 13th of November last, forwarding blank returns to be filled in and consolidated, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Lieutenant Governor, that I duly forwarded copies to the managers in this district, and have up to the present moment received replies from three of them, which are herewith subjoined (a consolidation of them being an impossible task). It is evident to me that after the lapse of time, since these circulars have been sent out by me, and the remarks which different parties have made in connexion, it is not their intention to supply the information required of them. Some have said that as there was no penalty for filling up these returns, they would not take the trouble to hand over their journals or pay lists; others must first obtain the authority or consent of their attornies, and the greater portion have alleged the same reasons as those stated by Mr. Porter (in his written communication) for non-compliance.

I attribute all this hesitation, on the part of managers of estates, to the fact that they do not like to let the cat out of the bag, and confess that there is a disparity of wages as paid to the coolie and creole.

Some evidence of this disparity will appear from the return of Mr. Lucas, the manager of Plantation Palmyra.

I have, &c.
The Acting Assistant Government Secretary. (signed) *Sam. Bean.*

Sir, Plantation Marionville, 30 November 1857.

ENCLOSED I beg to forward one of the documents you sent me to fill up for his Excellency.

The other document I must decline to answer, being too inquisitorial.

Yours, &c.
To Samuel Bean, Esq., S. J. P. (signed) *G. Porter.*

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RATE of WAGES paid throughout District (F.) (*Essequibo Islands*) for the various Descriptions of Field Work performed in the Colony of *British Guiana*.

DESCRIPTION OF TASK.	QUANTITY OF WORK PERFORMED.	TIME TAKEN TO PERFORM THE TASK.	WAGES PAID.	
PLANTATION MARIONVILLE:			*dol. c.*	*s. d.*
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	20 Cl. p. square of 12 feet, 1 shovel deep.	4 roods in 6 hours.	- -	3 4
Digging small drains - - -	28 roods - - -	4 „ - -	- -	3 -
Holing cleared land - - -	30 roods, 4 inches deep	4 „ - -	- -	2 -
Shovel-ploughing holed land, and rounding beds.	30 roods, 1 shovel deep	4½ „ - -	- -	1 8
Relieving - - - - - -	60 ditto - - -	4 „ - -	- -	2 -
Supplying - - - - - -	60 ditto - - -	11 „ - -	- -	1 8
Weeding and moulding young canes.	60 ditto - - -	6 „ - -	- -	1 8
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	1 cord - - -	8 „ - -	- -	2 - to 4 -
Weeding and thrashing canes -	60 roods - - -	4½ „ - -	- -	1 8 to 2 -
Clearing trenches of grass - -	30 roods - - -	4 „ - -	- -	2 -
	25 (drainage) - -	4 „ - -	- -	1 8
Carrying megass - - -	children - - -	4 „ - -	- -	1 -
	women - - -			1 4
Supplying canes to mill - -	5,000 galls., imperial	14* „ - -	- -	1 4 to 1 8
		(signed) *G. Porter*, Manager.		
PLANTATION PALMYRA:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches:				
If new - - - - -	1 rood, 5 feet deep -	8 hours - -	- -	4 4
If old - - - - -	1 rood, 2½ feet deep -	4 „ - -	- -	2 -
Digging small drains:				
If new - - - - -	for 50 roods - -	12 „ - -	- -	4 6
If old - - - - -	for 50 „ - -	6 „ - -	- -	2 -
Holing cleared land - - -	12 roods, 3 rodbeds -	5 „ - -	- -	1 8
Shovel-ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	12 „ - ditto -	6 „ - -	- -	1 4
Relieving - - - - - -	15 „ - ditto -	4 „ - -	- -	1 8
Supplying - - - - - -	15 „ - ditto -	4 „ - -	- -	1 4
Weeding and moulding young canes.	12 „ - ditto -	5 „ - -	- -	3 4
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	1 punt - -	8 „ - -	- -	1 4
Weeding and thrashing canes -	12 rodbeds - -	4 „ - -	- -	1 4
Clearing trenches of grass - -	100 roods - -	15 „ - -	- -	4 2
Carrying megass - - -	This work is mostly performed by women and children.	14 „ - -	- -	1 -
Supplying canes to mill - -		11 „ - -	- -	1 2
		(signed) *J. W. Lucas*, Manager.		

* Time allowed for breakfast.

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1. Zorg.
2. Hoff van Aurich.
3. Cullen.
4. Spring Garden.
5. Huist Daren.
6. L'Union.
7. Ondernuming.
8. Aurora.
9. Golden Fleece.

Sir, Essequibo, 31 December 1857.

In reply to your letter of the 13th November, accompanied by blank forms to be filled in (by ?) the managers of the respective estates in my district, I have the honour to report that immediately after the receipt of those forms I waited personally upon the gentlemen, and left with each of them copies of the blanks, and a request to fill them in.

I have since that made repeated personal application for them, and it is only within the last few days that they have been collected.

His Excellency will perceive, from looking at these returns, that it was utterly impossible to compile anything like a statistical document from the information contained in them.

There is a decided unwillingness on the part of those parties to give any information which is not actually enforced by law.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Wm. Humphrys,*
Stipendiary Magistrate.

The Hon. J. G. Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

N.B.—From these returns it appears that the manager of Huis d'Eerin "cannot fill up these forms without the consent of his employer;" that the manager of L'Union does not consider himself "accountable to any one;" that the manager of Ondernuming "not being aware of the motive for asking these questions," declines answering them; that the manager of Aurora "not having any instructions from his employer, must decline to answer these questions;" and that the manager of Golden Fleece "does not feel authorised to give the above information."

Rate of Wages Paid throughout District (G.), for the various descriptions of Field Work performed in the Colony of *British Guiana.*

DESCRIPTION OF TASK.	QUANTITY OF WORK PERFORMED.	TIME TAKEN TO PERFORM THE TASK.	WAGES PAID.	
PLANTATION ZORG:			*dols. c.*	*s. d.*
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches Digging small drains Holing cleared land Shovel-ploughing holed land and rounding beds Relieving Supplying Weeding and moulding young canes Cutting and carrying canes to punt Weeding and thrashing canes Clearing trenches of grass Carrying megass Supplying canes to mill	No fixed system is now in existence; all agricultural tasks and wages are entirely dependent upon the sliding scale of labour supply. Last year the rates had advanced on the old tariff; one-fourth for hoe work, and one-third for shovel and cutlass work; and at this day the rates paid to non-residents are fully one-fourth more than those paid in 1856, and yet such is the scarcity of hands, that want of labour is severely felt.			
		(signed)	*E. Bishop.*	
PLANTATION HOFF VAN AURICH:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	12 feet	from 2 to 4 hours	-	10
Digging small drains	50 roods	8 hours	-	4
Holing cleared land	No return.			
Shovel-ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	20 roods	3 hours	-	1
Relieving	20 „	3 „	-	1
Supplying	20 „	3 „	-	1
Weeding and moulding young canes.	20 „	3 „	-	1
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	16 feet cord, 4 × 4	6 „	-	2
Weeding and thrashing canes	20 roods	3 „	-	1
Clearing trecnhes of grass	50 „	8 „	-	4
Carrying megass	Supplying boiling-house		-	10 5
Supplying canes to mill	- - - - -	- - -	-	17 4
		(signed)	*R. Robson.*	

(*continued*)

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RATE of Wages Paid throughout District (G.)—*continued.*

DESCRIPTION OF TASK.	QUANTITY OF WORK PERFORMED.	TIME TAKEN TO PERFORM THE TASK.	WAGES PAID.	
			dols. c.	*s. d.*
PLANTATION CULLEN:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	—	—	—	—
Digging small drains	25 roods	about 5 roods	—	1 4
Holing cleared land	—	—	—	—
Shovel-ploughing holed lands and rounding beds.	60 roods	about 4 hours	—	1 4
Relieving	60 „	ditto	—	1 4
Supplying	60 „	ditto	—	1 4
Weeding and moulding young canes.	cord of 16 × 4	ditto	—	1 4 to 2 —
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	60 roods	4 to 5 hours	—	1 4
Weeding and thrashing canes	sometimes 30 roods	—	—	1 4
Clearing trenches of grass	—	—	—	—
Carrying megass	according to the strength of the person carrying it.			
Supplying canes to mill	same remark as above.			
			(signed)	*J. W.*
PLANTATION SPRING GARDEN:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	depends upon the quantity.			
Digging small drains	none done here.			
Holing cleared land	60 roods	5 hours	All rates left blank.	
Shovel-ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	60 „	5 „	—	—
Relieving	60 „	5 „	—	—
Supplying	36 „	1 *s.* to 1 *s.* 4 *d.*	—	—
Weeding and moulding young canes.	per bed	—	—	—
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	60 roods	1 *s.* to 1 *s.* 4 *d.*	—	—
Weeding and thrashing canes	per bed	1 *s.* to 1 *s.* 4 *d.*	—	—
Clearing trenches of grass	40 roods	5 hours	—	—
Carrying megass	32 cents by day = 1 *s.* 4 *d.*			
Supplying canes to mill	1 *s.* 8 *d.* per diem.			

Sir, Annandale, 10 January 1858.

IN reply to your circular of the 19th October last, I have the honour to report, as far as my knowledge and experience are concerned, that the reports which have reached his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the great increase of wages and the idleness of the creole population are erroneous, and without foundation. It has also been represented to the Lieutenant Governor that the coolies are not working; if, therefore, both these classes of labourers are doing so little work, it may reasonably be asked, How are the estates cultivated, and how is the large quantity of produce manufactured, and by whom? I should have been very glad to furnish the Lieutenant Governor with correct information to the various points urged in his circular, had it been possible to obtain from the gentlemen owning, leasing, or conducting estates, such information as could have been relied on. The statements made by sugar planters are so variable, so contradictory, and so unreasonable, that they should be received with the greatest caution. The rise and fall in the price of sugar influences their statements, and give a colour to their complaints. Inquiry and observation have convinced me, that wages have not risen as regards the creoles resident on estates.

The

The same wages are paid now as heretofore.

There has been an increase in the wages of task-gang labourers, but this is entirely owing to the great demand for labour in consequence of the planters throughout the district having immediately, on the rising of the price of sugar, extended their cultivation, some of which must retrograde, in consequence of the available labour not being more than sufficient for the cultivation which previously existed. The wages at present earned by the labourers are scarcely sufficient for their wants; and when it is reflected upon how little food can be procured for 48 cents, which is the maximum daily wages that a labourer can earn, his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor will not be surprised to hear that the labouring population of British Guiana is miserably poor. Poor from the low rates of wages paid, the exorbitant rates of the commonest and coarsest food, the existing labour laws, which places the labourer so much in the power of the employers, and the oppressive poll-tax.

With regard to the temper and conduct of the people, I am happy to report that, although very much unsettled by the recent tax, they have nevertheless displayed great forbearance and willingness to submit to the law; and that during the last half-year there has been a great decrease in offences of all descriptions. It is obvious that the planters must indulge in some cry of grievance; when sugar prices were low, it was ruin; when the sugar market rose to such a pitch as to elicit the expression, that it was actually, "coining money." Then came the lament of scarcity of labour and excessive wages. But the colony now producing more than it did in the palmy days of slavery, as they are called, may be safely predicted to be in a highly flourishing condition.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Wm. Humphrys,*
S. J. P.

The Hon. the
Acting Government Secretary.

Sir, Districts (C.) and (D.), 16 January 1858.

In reply to your Excellency's communication of the 19th October last, I beg to state that I have deferred sending in my report until the present time, in the hope that I should have been able to have obtained answers to the questions I had submitted to the gentlemen in charge of the estates in these districts; but having failed to obtain this information, I am therefore compelled to content myself with forming an opinion from the general inquiries I have made as to the actual state of the labour question in these districts, from which I am led to the conclusion that the report which has for some time existed, of the increased rate of wages demanded by the labourers, is substantially correct.

On several of the largest properties which I have selected as a general indication of the labour market, I learn that wages for the same amount and quality of work, as given at a corresponding period of last year, have now risen in some cases 50, in others 70 per cent. On one estate, up to the end of November, 3,500 dollars more wages had been paid than during the previous year, in making the same quantity of sugar.

This considerable rise in wages is consequent upon two causes: First, the abundance of edible provisions during last year, which at one time had become a glut in the market, and thereby enabled the labourer to get supplied at a very moderate rate, and consequently rendered it unnecessary for him to work for more than three days in the week; and as his wants comparatively speaking are few and easily supplied, the stimulus to exertion was not required, as he earned during that period sufficient to procure him all that he desired. The second cause was the rapid advance in the price of sugar at the latter end of 1856 and beginning of 1857, which induced the proprietors of estates to extend that cultivation without reflecting that a possibility might occur to prevent their being able to reap the additional crop with the limited supply of labour at their command.

This possibility has been realised, and rather than allow the canes to rot on the ground, the planters have been obliged to accede to the exorbitant demands of the labourers, who have not failed to take advantage of the opportunity afforded them.

On many estates the cultivation has been neglected for want of hands to relieve, and supply the canes after they were cut, the effect of which will tend very materially to diminish the crop of the present year. In fact, this description of work has been refused to be performed by the labourers at any reasonable rate of wages, and the grass which has so rapidly grown up within the last two months, owing to the showers we have had, could not be got rid of at any price.

The increased rate of wages given to the creole labourers has been followed up by a similar advance to the immigrants, who otherwise would have become discontented and idle; therefore, in reducing wages to a fair and legitimate standard, immigration has not as yet benefited the planter. The system now pursued by the creole population with reference to their work, is this: On Mondays, and sometimes on Tuesdays, there is a total cessation of work. On Wednesdays they go to the field, select their work, and on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, they labour, and during these three days I have ascertained that an able-bodied labourer has made as much as a dollar a day, which is about double what he earned at a corresponding period of last year.

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The question of the present high price of labour resolves itself into this, that the advanced price of sugar in 1857, coupled with the abundance of ground-food during the year, was the immediate cause of the scarcity of labour; and of course the only remedy for this evil which unhappily exists would be an adequate supply of hands, from whatever source they could be legitimately obtained.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. H. Ware.*

His Excellency W. Walker, Esq.
Lieutenant Governor.

F. 77.

Sir, District (E.), 18 January 1858.

BE pleased to inform his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that the enclosed forms filled in by Mr. Cameron of Zeelugt are the only ones I have received up to date, and I am sorry to say are the only ones I am likely to receive, the managers generally throughout this district being strongly averse to furnish the required information.

Many of them have been desired (I hear) by their attornies, not to give the information.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. G. Tucker,*
A. S. M., J. P.

The Hon. the Acting Government Secretary.

RATE of WAGES paid throughout District (E.) for the various descriptions of Field Work performed in the Colony of *British Guiana*.

DESCRIPTION OF TASK.	QUANTITY OF WORK PERFORMED.	TIME TAKEN TO PERFORM THE TASK.	WAGES PAID.	
PLANTATION ZEELUGT:			*dols. c.*	*s. d.*
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	none this year.	—	—	—
Digging small drains	50 roods	7 to 8 hours	—	3 4
Holing cleared land	none this year.	—	—	—
Shovel-ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	36 roods	5 to 6 hours	—	1 4
Relieving	36 „	3½ „	—	1 4
Supplying	36 „	4 „	—	1 4
Weeding and moulding young canes.	36 „	4 to 5 „	—	1 4
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	250 cubic feet	7 „	—	2 —
Weeding and thrashing canes	36 roods	7 „	—	2 —
Clearing trenches of grass	15 „	3½ to 5 „	—	1 4
Carrying megass	chiefly women and children.	11 to 13 „	—	1 4
Supplying canes to mill	no fixed quantity	10 to 11 „	—	1 8

(signed) *D. Cameron.*

Encl. 4, in No. 39.

Enclosure 4, in No. 39.

Sir, Mahaica, District (A.), 20 January 1858.

THE immigrants under my charge in this judicial district have been behaving well for months past.

Few of them have been brought before me for offences committed under the various Ordinances, and it is very satisfactory to be able to report that so good an understanding exists between the employed and those in authority over them, that not a single complaint has been preferred for a very considerable period. From several parties have I received very favourable accounts of the general good behaviour of these parties, particularly within the last few days, from Colvin Smith, Esq., whose account of the industrious habits of the coolies located on his estate, Melville, is highly satisfactory.

From the paucity of complaints, I consider that I have a right to presume that parties are, on the whole, satisfied. If they do not take the benefit of the Ordinance enacted for their protection, I do not think that they have any right to find fault.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. MacLeod,* Stipendiary Magistrate.
District (A.)

Stephen H. Goodman, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sir, Berbice River District (L.), 30 November 1857.

I HAVE the honour, in reply to your circular of the 19th instant, requiring a special report as to the behaviour of the coolies during the last few months, to enclose herewith extracts from the monthly immigation returns of this district for the months of August, September, and October last.

With reference to the working of Ordinance 7, 1854, as well as in regard to employers and employed, I have the pleasure to report favourably. The Ordinance appears in every respect to work well, and very few complaints have been made by employers or immigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John M'Swiney*,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

The Honourable John Gardiner Austin,
&c. &c. &c.
Acting Government Secretary.

BERBICE, RIVER, DISTRICT (L.)

EXTRACTS from the IMMIGRATION RETURNS for the Months of August, September, and October 1857.

TATE.	AUGUST.	SEPTEMBER.	OCTOBER.
Plantation Providence -	- - Africans working indifferently; coolies working well.	Working well -	- - Working pretty well.
„ Everton - -	Industrious - - -	Industrious - -	Industrious.
„ Friends -	Idem - - - -	Idem - - -	Idem.
„ Highbury -	- - Old coolies industrious; new coolies do very little work.	Idem - - -	Idem.
„ Ma Retraite -	Good and industrious -	-- Good and industrious.	- - Good and industrious.
„ Mara - - -	- - This being a holiday month, industry below the average.	- - Industry above the average.	Industry fair.
„ L'Esperance	No report - - -	Industrious - -	Industrious.
„ Standvastigheid.	No report - - -	No report - -	No report.
„ Blairmont -	Report confined to health.	—	—
„ Balthyirk -			

I have seen the managers of the three last estates, and they state that they have no complaints to make with reference to the labour of the coolies.

(signed) *John M'Swiney*, S. M.

Sir, West Coast District, Berbice, 4 December 1857.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 23d ultimo, of your circular, No. 861, of the 19th of November, in reference to the behaviour of the immigrant labourers in this district during the last few months. In reply to which I have the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that from the very few complaints from employers of immigrants that have been brought before me (five only from the 16th May to date), I have no reason to believe that the disposition on the part of the coolies to evade the obligation to labour for their employers exists to any great extent in this district; and I am assured by the managers, of whom I have made particular inquiries on the subject since the receipt of your letter, that their coolie immigrants have been behaving very well latterly, and that they have little or no occasion to be dissatisfied with them.

The coolie complaints brought before me are, for the most part, breaches of the peace and cases of assault arising from quarrels amongst themselves or the creoles on the estates; but it is rarely indeed that a manager or overseer appears as a complainant in the magistrate's court.

With respect to the Immigration Ordinance, No. 7 of 1854, there can be no doubt that it has worked uncommonly well, both as regards employers and employed; the amount of labour performed by the latter since that Ordinance came into effect having been nearly

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doubled, and their earnings thereby consequently increased; but in my opinion it is very questionable if the position of the immigrant is improved by giving him the option of changing his employer at the end of the third and fourth year of his indentures. The coolie does not always better his situation by changing masters, but very often makes a change for the worse.

I have, &c.

The Honourable John Gardiner Austin,
Acting Government Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *A. F. Baird*, S. M.

Stipendiary Magistrate's Office Districts (C.) and (D.),
4 December 1857.

Sir,

With reference to the circular of the 19th November last, requesting me to report as to the general behaviour of the coolies in the district, I beg to state, for the information of the Lieutenant Governor, that having made inquiries of the respective managers of estates who have the superintendence of these people, I do not find that there has been more than usual any disposition to be unruly, or to evade the labour they have contracted to perform.

They certainly, at times, endeavour to shirk the work if possible, and have recourse to various subterfuges which it is difficult for the employers to counteract; but on the whole there is no reason to rejoice at, or be dissatisfied with, the conduct of this general body of immigrants.

With respect to the working of the Immigration Ordinance (7, 1854), I would beg to observe that many difficulties present themselves as to the perfect carrying out of this law. In the first place, the coolie, who is docility itself, when not goaded to desperation, is obedient in the extreme to the commands of his employer. He never for one moment thinks of telling him that he will not do this or that work, but if the labour does not please him he immediately feigns sickness or incapacity, and it is therefore impossible to use coercion by way of application to the stipendiary magistrate.

It has come to my knowledge, that 40, out of a gang of 120, have asserted they were ill where the work did not suit them, but the next day, when the labour was changed, they have cheerfully turned out and performed an average task.

In the second place, the managers have another difficulty to contend with, which appears to be of no ordinary magnitude. During the first year of the coolie's location on the estate his labour, comparatively speaking, is very trifling, as the process of acclimatization renders him unfit to do much. The second and third year he becomes useful, and then the contract terminates. If, during the period of indenture, his employer has endeavoured to exact from him the legal amount of work, he fancies himself to have been hardly dealt with, and seeks a new employer who has been less rigid. The master is therefore obliged, in order to secure the two years prospective services of the immigrant originally located upon his estate, to allow him to have, in a great measure, a great deal of his own way, otherwise they part company on the termination of the contract; and as the old coolie is more valuable than the new one, everything is done to conciliate and make him happy and contented.

Another evil, which is becoming more apparent every day, is the precipitate haste with which these people flock to the magistrate's office for the most trifling causes, and very often imaginary grievances, thereby causing a loss of time and labour.

With all the peaceable disposition of the coolie, there is, nevertheless, a large amount of cunning in his composition.

It is within my knowledge, that a few of them have joined together, trumped up a complaint, applied for a summons, and when the day of trial came, neither party appeared after getting permission from the manager to go to court; and all this was done in order to secure a holiday.

I will now advert briefly to the wages earned by these people. On some estates I find the average amount paid to them for labour does not exceed four dollars per month; and, as their wants are few and easily supplied, they are, out of this sum, enabled to put by nearly half their earnings. Of course there are some who are more industrious; and those who come within this category are receiving the high wages now paid to the creole; their savings are, consequently, considerable, which accounts for the large sums of money many carry away with them on their return to India.

In a moral point of view the coolie ranks very low in the scale of society. Mendacity, low cunning, and drunkenness are among his prevailing vices. In the position of a magistrate, the first-named evil renders it next to impossible for him to mete out that even-handed justice which is so much to be desired; and I do not err, when I assert that, from the bribery and corruption which is too often had recourse to, that many an innocent coolie has suffered the penalty of the law.

The evils I have endeavoured to point out, as existing with reference to the coolie, are many, and no doubt require remedies; but I fear this cannot be accomplished but by the work of time. There is, however, one obstacle which appears to me can be removed so far as regards the industry of the coolie. He should, before he receives bounty, or leaves the estate on which he has been located for the three years, be bound to show, that when not hindered by sickness or incapacity, that he has been diligent in fulfilling the conditions of

his

his contract, failing which he should be debarred the right of receiving the bonus, and be compelled to remain on the plantation until he has implemented his engagement.

In concluding this report, I would beg to observe, that the coolies have no reason to complain of the treatment they receive at the hands of their employers. The wages they are entitled to are punctually and faithfully paid, and every attention in sickness and in health is bestowed upon them to make them a happy and contented peasantry.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Walter Howard Ware*,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

The Hon.
the Acting Government Secretary.

Sir, Magistrate's Office, Corentyne Coast, 7 December 1857.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your circular of the 19th November ult., 861, and to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, relative to the behaviour of the immigrants during the last five months ending 30th November, as follows:

1. Of the 955 immigrants in this district there were in the above period,

Complaints against employers	—
Complaints against immigrants	17
Convictions on 17 complaints	12
Complaints (of the 17) either dismissed or compounded	5

From the above, coupled with my own observations, moving about as I do a great deal among these people, I am led to the conclusion that at least, in so far as this district is concerned, the reports made to his Excellency of the "disposition of the immigrants to evade as much as possible the obligation to labour," are altogether unfounded, in which view of the case every planter in the district coincides.

2. As to the general working of the Ordinance 7 of 1854, one gentleman, writing on the subject, observes, "it answers the purposes intended quite well enough, and I for one should be sorry to see it altered;" another writes thus, "its working has, in the main, been satisfactory, and I have nothing at all to say against it." The remaining planters have expressed themselves in similar terms, and, as far as this district is concerned, I am bound, from experieuce, to add my own testimony in its favour, so that if in other parts of the colony the parties interested do not derive from it all the benefits it is calculated to ensure, the fault must be looked for elsewhere than in the Ordinance itself.

3. Taking into consideration the present social position of the labouring population, the character and habits of the immigrants, the difficulties with which in British Guiana we have to contend, I respectfully submit that it would be extremely difficult to frame a law better adapted than 7 of 1854 to secure the objects contemplated, namely, labour for the employer and proper treatment for the employed; true, there are some parts of the colony, and some estates, in which the results are more favourable than in others, but the difference arises from local circumstances, not from any defect in the provisions of the law itself: for example, "Eliza and Mary," and "Skeldon," in this district, from their remoteness from town, their isolated position, the extreme difficulty of intercommunication with indentured immigrants on other estates, especially the coolies, are happily exempted from many of the drawbacks regarding labour, which are common to estates in proximity to each other, as in Demerara and Essequibo, the fomenters of mischief being always most active and most numerous where they have the greatest number of victims and the widest scope for the prosecution of their evil pursuits.

Then, again, there are estates like "Albion" and "Port Mourant," in this district, which, by allowing the privilege of keeping cattle (to the extent of some thousand head), offer to the immigrants a practical premium on their good behaviour, which few other estates in the colony would be able or willing to afford.

I hope to be excused for being thus prolix, but my anxiety has been to present the case in all its bearings; to state not only truth, and nothing but the truth, but also the whole of the truth, without which erroneous conclusions may be arrived at.

The above is respectfully submitted by, &c.

(signed) *E. G. H. Davis*,
Acting Stipendiary Magistrate,
Corentyne District.

The Hon. John Gardiner Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

Sir, District (E.) 10 December 1857.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the following report, in terms of your circular of the 19th ultimo.

As far as my short experience in this district enables me to form conclusions respecting the general behaviour of the immigrants, and the working of Ordinance 7 of 1854, I am of opinion that for some time past their behaviour has been very satisfactory, particularly when compared with the demeanor of the resident creole peasantry; indeed every planter to whom I have spoken on the subject concurs with me in this belief. Subjoined I submit an abstract from my record of convictions under 7 of 1854, from July to 30th November,

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November, in support thereof, by which his Excellency will perceive that while the convictions have decreased since July, they bear a very small proportion to the aggregate number of immigrants located in this district.

There are, I believe, many offences committed by immigrants which from policy are overlooked, such as non-performance of the legal task, drunkenness, and feigning ill to shirk work, and which, consequently, are never brought to the notice of the magistrate; still this abstract affords tolerable proof of the Saturday operation of Ordinance 7 of 1854; to me, however, there seems two provisions wanting therein to render it more effective: 1st. Provision to meet offences repeated over and oftener; at present the maximum penalty and punishment awarded under section 31, is 23 dollars, or 30 days (hard labour); old offenders think little of 30 days' imprisonment; but were that maximum extended I feel sure it would materially, if not effectually, check that most common offence, namely, the habit of absconding, which, as we all know, prevails throughout the colony. 2dly. If managers alone were permitted to sign passes for leave, many a counterfeit pass, or one bearing the signature of some unknown overseer, would be intercepted by the police, who are generally acquainted with the signatures of managers, while unacquainted with those of their overseers. Again, this might be simplified if Government would import and issue to the estates, through either the registrars or magistrates' coloured pass-books, in the form of bank cheque-books, one colour denominating the county of Demerara, a second that of Essequibo, and the third that of Berbice. The cost of these pass-books being a mere trifle could be borne by the estates, and reimbursed them by the applicants for leave; each manager would thus possess an easy record of his absentees, just as a bank cheque-book records in its margin each cheque issued: and any immigrant found wandering over the term of his leave would, by the colour of his pass, show to what county he belonged; then if each manager entered his signature at the nearest police station, in a book to be kept for that purpose, the police in the district would become so familiar with it as to be able to distinguish it from a forgery, and thus, in my humble opinion, that most serious and common evil of immigrants wandering about unchecked would be effectually remedied.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. G. Tucker,*
Acting Stipendiary Magistrate, District (E.)

The Honourable
the Acting Government Secretary.

District (E.).

ABSTRACT of CONVICTIONS obtained against Indentured Immigrants under Ordinance 7 of 1854.

ESTATES.	Number of Immigrants on each.	CONVICTIONS IN					Of whom		TOTAL Convictions.
		July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	did Pay.	were Convicted.	
N. Flanders	35	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	1
Haarlem	170	1	–	2	–	2	–	5	5
W. Forest	150	10	10	1	–	2	11	12	23
La Jalousie	85	2	–	–	–	–	–	2	2
Blankenburg	159	3	–	10	–	2	1	14	15
Hagne	126	–	–	–	–	2	–	2	2
Cor. Ida	144	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Anna Catherina	156	11	–	–	2	6	7	12	19
Gromveldt	134	–	5	–	–	–	3	2	5
Leonora	182	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Stewartville	130	2	–	3	2	–	4	3	7
Witvlught	70	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
De William	158	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
M. Meerzorg	127	1	–	4	–	–	–	5	5
Tyuborg	101	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	1
De Kinderin	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tyulugt	139	6	1	1	–	–	2	6	8
Tuschen de V.	94	–	–	2	2	4	4	4	8
Vergenogen	84	–	–	–	1	–	–	1	1
Philadelphia	65	–	–	2	–	–	–	2	2
TOTAL Immigrants	2,309	36	16	25	7	20	33	71	104

(signed) *L. G. Tucker,*
Acting Stipendiary Magistrate, District (E.)

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sir, Demerara, District (B.), Saturday, 12 December 1857.

1. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, circular No. 861, dated 19th November 1857, requiring me to make a special report "as to the conduct of the coolies during the last few months" in this district. In reply, I have the honour to state that as I have only performed the duties of my appointment for a few months past, I am incapable of drawing any comparison between the conduct of the coolies previous to the 13th of May last, the date of my entering upon the duties of my appointment, and the last few months; and that I have therefore drawn up a return, hereto annexed, which might afford some information, and by which some comparison may be made between the conduct of the coolies and other labourers within this district.

2. In every country in which the production of its export staples depends on coercive labour, as in British Guiana, there must be almost periodically times during which the exercise of coercion becomes more necessary than at other periods; employers for the most part will not take the trouble or have a kindly disinclination to bring minor cases before the magistrate, and consequently gradually a laxity of discipline takes place, until at last the interposition of the magistrate, that is coercion, and perhaps some severity, becomes necessary, and it is then some time before those exposed to that coercion are brought into a proper state of discipline. This state of things has undoubtedly arisen on one or two estates within this district in my own time, and perhaps such a state, although not perceptible to me, might have been, generally speaking, for the past few months the case throughout the district, and hence may have arisen that disposition to which you have alluded in your communication.

3. I do not however consider that the disposition to which you refer can have been simply dependent on the feelings of the coolies, but that it has been excited, if at all, by the peculiar position in which they have been placed during the present year in comparison, as I am informed, with former years. This year, on account of the greatly increased rate of wages paid for almost every kind of field labour, and the consequent independence of the non-resident creole labourers, employers have not been able, by any temptation of high wages, to obtain the labour of the non-resident creoles, upon whom they have hitherto depended to perform many of those more laborious field operations, usually performed by that description of labourers, and they have therefore been compelled to draw off the coolies from that labour to which they have been accustomed and prefer, to perform the labour usually performed by the creole non-resident labourers. This circumstance may perhaps in some measure have given rise to those reports which have reached the Government. Besides, the immigrant population and the resident creole labourers naturally strive to imitate the non-resident creole labourers, who are in a much more independent position than themselves; and since the non-resident creole labourers do no labour, and cannot be coerced to labour beyond two or at the most three days in the week, in which time they can now easily supply more than all their limited wants and necessaries of life, the whole of the remaining labouring population having also received a higher rate of wages, have become inclined to enjoy the ease and independence of the non-resident creole labourer, rather than profit by the advance of wages, and to practise an increase of industrial exertion. Unhappily the increase in the rate of wages causes in an inverse ratio a decrease in the amount of labour.

4. I cannot say that I have observed in the coolies a greater disposition to evade their obligations to labour, than that which must at times be expected from labourers so situated, and from persons like themselves, who appear to possess fewer wants even than the creole population, and who have no pleasures or amusements except those based upon selfish sensual indulgence.

5. In respect to the working of the Ordinance No. 7, 1854, I take it for granted you refer only to so much of it as relates to complaints brought before the magistrate; namely, sections 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, and 41.

6. The most operative of these sections in respect to immigrants generally are sections 31 and 36, and they would appear to me to comprehend almost every possible complaint by an employer, as such, against an immigrant labourer. It, however, at the same time appears to me that the fine of 23 dollars in each section is disproportionate to the period of imprisonment. There are only a very few of the most industrious coolies who can earn more than 10 *s.* by five days' labour, or 2 *l.* sterling, about 10 dollars, in a lunar month; and certainly in cases of determined bad characters, or for repeated offences, or for almost any offence created by sect. 36, the imprisonment is too limited in cases in which the whole penalty would be imposed, and reformatory punishment become necessary. The sections 25, 26, and 27 have reference to immigrants under verbal or unwritten contracts only, and are almost entirely merely directory in respect to such contracts; and sections 24, 32, 33, 34, and 37, are both protective to immigrants, and directory as to that which must be done and proved by the employer before he can obtain a conviction in certain cases, on prosecuting a complaint; while section 41 gives to the employer additional security for the services of the indentured immigrant, but none for the immigrant under a verbal or unwritten contract, and imposes only the same penalty, with the addition of one dollar a day, upon one who shall commit so great an offence as the one created by this section, as may be imposed for the most trifling offence committed by an immigrant. In section 25, the words "and the wages for such service shall be payable weekly," would enable the magistrate to make an order for the payment of wages claimed and proved to be due, and that order could be enforced by Ordinance No. 19, 1856, section 33; and by section 26, if the employer terminated the verbal

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verbal or unwritten contract, the magistrate may order the payment of one month's wages, and enforce it in a similar manner. But although section 35 implies a complaint may be made by any immigrant for the non-payment of wages, yet there is no power given by the Ordinance for the magistrate to give an order, and to enforce the payment of wages due by an employer to his indentured immigrant. It is true, by section 61, all complaints, &c. are to be heard and determined by Ordinance No. 19, 1845, repealed by Ordinance No. 25, 1856, by which latter Ordinance, section 8, the Ordinance No. 19, 1856, is substituted for the Ordinance No. 19, 1845; but yet neither the Ordinance No. 19, 1845, nor the Ordinance No. 19, 1856, makes the non-payment of wages an offence, or gives power to the magistrate to make an order for their payment, and simply points out the mode of procedure when either a conviction has been obtained or an order has been made. The only section which gives any remedy to the indentured immigrant against the employer is section 28, by which, "if any employer shall ill-use any immigrant," the employer is liable to a penalty of 50 dollars; and if such penalty be unpaid, by No. 19, 1856, sec. 33, to be imprisoned for four calendar months, with or without hard labour. It would, however, be difficult so accurately to define the words "ill-use" as to prevent great difference of opinion as to that which may be considered ill-usage; and, no doubt, some magistrates may be of one opinion, and some other magistrates of the very contrary opinion of that which may be considered ill usage, comprehending, as it may be said to do, every possible injury, from great personal violence to the frown of displeasure or the slightest unkindness. And section 29 presupposes a conviction or order, no doubt, made upon a complaint founded on section 28; and, in addition, gives a remedy for wages due, but not otherwise. And if sections 28–29 may be considered as a protection against violence, yet in any case of violence some magistrates would perhaps prefer convicting under Ordinance 12, 1846, sec. 27, in respect to a well-defined offence, than risk a conviction on the section of an Ordinance upon which there may exist great difficulty. I can hardly think a court of law would hold a conviction good under section 28, for the breach of a civil contract for the non-payment of wages; for section 29 would contradict such a supposition, and deals with wages, as I have already stated, only as a consequent upon some previous conviction or order.

7. I have not yet experienced any difficulty in dealing with any cases between employer and immigrants; but I have had very many cases in which I have considered 30 days' imprisonment to hard labour too slight a punishment, either for repeated offences, or in cases in which property to considerable value may have been or has been destroyed by negligence, or by other improper conduct.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James Crosby*,
J. P. and S. M.

To the Honourable T. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

A RETURN showing the Number of COMPLAINTS heard and determined by *James Crosby*, Esq., Stipendiary Magistrate for District (B.), from the 13th day of May 1857 to the 30th day of November 1857, both days inclusive, under the Ordinance No. 7, 1854, and the Ordinance No. 2, 1853, distinguishing the different descriptions of Immigrants, so that some comparison may be made between the conduct of the Coolie and the Labourer.

DATE.	Total Number of Cases heard.	Cases heard under No. 7, 1854.		Cases heard under No. 2, 1853.		
		Coolies.	Portuguese.	Creoles.	Coolies.	Portuguese.
May {From 13th to 31st May 1857 - - -}	188	1	5	19	—	—
June - - - - -	278	29	5	19	- -	1
July - - - - -	237	40	- -	29	- -	1
August - - - -	245	40	9	38	- -	5
September - - - -	311	53	- -	52	1	2
October - - - -	314	53	- -	52	—	—
November - - - -	247	71	2	26	—	—

Remarks.—It is to be observed, the complaints under No. 7, 1854, are almost always made by employers against the immigrants; for I do not think the complaints by the immigrants against the employers amount to two per cent. But the complaints made under No. 2, 1853, are made as commonly by the employed against the employers as the contrary, and by task gang drivers against persons employed by them, and by those they employ against themselves. If the employers were to bring similar complaints against the creole labourers, whether resident or non-resident, to those they bring against the immigrants, they would in all probability lose the little continuous creole labour they can now command, and consequently the complaints against the coolies are apparently in a much greater proportion than the real state of the labour market, if it could be accurately ascertained, would disclose. In the Return I have used the word "Portuguese;" the complaints, however, are for the most part against the Cape de Verde people, and not against those from Madeira. The Madeira people appear to me to be by far the most steady workmen.

(signed) *James Crosby*,
Justice of the Peace and Stipendiary Magistrate.

Saturday, 12 October 1857.

Stipendiary Magistrate's Office, District (K.), Berbice,
16 December 1857.

Sir,

In answer to your Circular, No. 861, of the 19th of November date, I have the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that I have received very few complaints against the labourers in general, either immigrants or others, in this district, since I have been placed in charge of the same.

The conduct of the coolie immigrants has been generally well spoken of by all parties, and as an evidence of this good conduct only four cases in the last six months have been brought before me, three of which were not followed up, and only one conviction has taken place.

Of the creole rural population, there have been only 11 cases in the same period, four of which were not followed up, five were withdrawn, and only one convicted.

I enclose the rates of wages paid for different kinds of work on the estates of this district.

I have not found or heard of any difficulties attending the working of Ordinance 7, anno 1854, since that Ordinance has been in operation, and conceive that it has given satisfaction hitherto.

I have, &c.

Hon. J. G. Austin,
Acting Government Secretary, &c. &c.

(signed) *W. J. Sandiford,*
Stipendiary Magistrate.

RATE of Wages paid throughout District (K.) for the various Descriptions of Field-work performed in the Colony of *British Guiana.*

DESCRIPTION OF TASK.	QUANTITY OF WORK PERFORMED.	TIME TAKEN TO PERFORM THE TASK.	WAGES PAID.	
PLANTATION SMYTHFIELD:			*Dols. cts.*	*s. d.*
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	4 roods by each labourer.	From 5 to 7 hours	– 48	2 –
Digging small drains - - -	30 roods each labourer.	- ditto - -	– 48	2 –
Holing cleared land - - -	30 roods by each labourer.	- ditto - -	– 48	2 –
Shovel ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	From 60 to 65 roods	- ditto - -	– 48	2 –
Relieving - - - - - -	From 100 to 120 roods by each labourer.	- ditto - -	– 40	1 8
Supplying, with shovel ploughing	From 50 to 75 roods	- ditto - -	– 48	2 –
Weeding and moulding young canes	From 100 to 120 roods	- ditto - -	– 40	1 8
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	2 at utmost (tasks) -	- ditto - -	– 64	2 8
Weeding and thrashing canes -	From 120 to 175 roods	- ditto - -	– 64	2 8
Clearing trenches of grass - -	From 30 to 56 roods	- ditto - -	– 40	1 8
Carrying megass - - -	1 day's work by each labourer.	- ditto - -	– 24	1 –
Supplying canes to mill - -	1 day's work - -	From 12 to 15 hours.	– 44	1 10

8 December 1857.

(signed) *Robert Coventry Williams,* Manager.

PLANTATION ROSE HALL:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	4 roods 12 feet canal, 1 shovel deep.	From 6 to 10 hours	– 64	2 8
Digging small drains - - -	36 roods, 1 shovel deep.	- ditto - -	– 64	2 8
Holing cleared land - - -	40 roods by 3 feet wide.	About 6 hours -	– 48	2 –
Shovel ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	40 roods - - -	6 to 8 hours -	– 40	1 8
Relieving - - - - - -	120 roods - -	- ditto - -	– 32	1 8
Supplying - - - - - -	80 roods - - -	- ditto - -	– 32	1 4
Weeding and moulding young canes	80 roods - - -	- ditto - -	– 32	1 4
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	16 feet cord - -	6 to 7 hours -	– 40	1 8
Weeding and thrashing canes -	100 roods - -	6 to 8 „ -	– 32	1 4
Clearing trenches of grass - -	30 roods - - -	- - -	– 32	1 4
Carrying megass - - -	- - - - -	10 hours - -	– 32	1 4
Supplying canes to mill - -	- - - -	12 „ - -	– 32	1 4

1 December 1857.

(signed) *James Bartrum.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

RATE of WAGES paid throughout District (K.), &c.—*continued.*

DESCRIPTION OF TASK.	QUANTITY OF WORK PERFORMED.	TIME TAKEN TO PERFORM THE TASK.	WAGES PAID.	
PLANTATION ADELPHIE:			*Dols. cts.*	*s. d.*
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	12 feet by 5 deep	9 hours	– 96	4 –
Digging small drains	20 roods	4 „	– 32	1 4
Holing cleared land	34 roods by 3 feet wide	6 „	– 56	2 4
Shovel ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	34 roods	5 „	– 40	1 8
Relieving	110 roods	5 „	– 32	1 4
Supplying	70 roods	4 to 5 hours	– 32	1 4
Weeding and moulding young canes	100 roods	ditto	– 32	1 4
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	15 people employed to fill and bring home canes; 19 to 20 punts a day.	11 hours	4 16	17 4
Weeding and thrashing canes	100 roods	4 „	– 32	1 4
Clearing trenches of grass	30 roods	5 „	– 32	1 4
Carrying megass	For 5 hogsheads sugar	11 „	5 –	20 10
Supplying canes to mill	ditto	11 „	2 24	9 4

(signed) *L. Hintyen*, Manager.

PLANTATION LOCHABBER:			*Dols. cts.*	*s. d.*
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	14 feet wide, 1 foot deep, old trench.	2 hours	– 20	– 16
Digging small drains	No work of this kind has been done by me as yet.	—	—	—
Holing cleared land	Ditto.	—	—	—
Shovel ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	30 roods by 3 feet	6 hours	– 40	– 8
Relieving	No work of this kind has been performed by me as yet.	—	—	—
Supplying	Ditto.	—	—	—
Weeding and moulding young canes.	90 roods	7 hours	– 48	2 –
Cutting and carrying canes to punt.	By a cord 8 feet long 4 feet high.	5 „	– 40	1 8
Weeding and thrashing canes	90 roods	6 „	– 40	1 8
Clearing trenches of grass	30 roods	8 „	– 64	2 8
Carrying megass	To firemen	9 „	– 32	1 4
Supplying canes to mill	For 5,000 galls. cane juice.	10 „	– 32	1 4

PLANTATION NEW FOREST:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	From 1 to 2 roods	From 5 to 10 hours.	– 96	4 –
Digging small drains	25 roods	5 hours	– 56	2 4
Holing cleared land	40 roods	5 hours	– 56	2 4
Shovel ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	40 roods	7 hours	– 96	4 –
Relieving	100 roods	5 hours	– 40	1 8
Supplying	100 roods	6 hours	– 40	1 8
Weeding and moulding young canes.	100 roods	7 hours	– 40	1 8
Cutting and carrying canes to punt.	2 cords	6 hours	– 40	1 8
Weeding and thrashing canes	100 roods	7 hours	– 40	1 8
Clearing trenches of grass	20 roods	4 hours	– 40	1 8
Carrying megass		10 hours	4 80	20 –
Supplying canes to mill	60 cords	10 hours	1 94	7 8

(signed) *John Grimmond*, Overseer.

RATE of WAGES paid throughout District (K.), &c.—*continued.*

DESCRIPTION OF TASK.	QUANTITY OF WORK PERFORMED.	TIME TAKEN TO PERFORM THE TASK.	WAGES PAID.	
			Dols. cts.	*s. d.*
PLANTATION RELIANCE:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	A rood of canal -	3 hours -	- 16	- 8
Digging small drains - - -	35 roods - - -	7 hours - -	- 56	4 -
Holing cleared land - - -	40 roods - - -	6 hours - -	- 40	1 8
Shovel ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	44 roods - -	7 hours - -	- 32	1 4
Relieving - - - - -	From 100 to 120 roods.	6 hours - -	- 32	1 4
Supplying - - - - -	126 roods - -	5 hours - -	- 32	1 4
Weeding and moulding young canes.	100 roods - -	7 hours - -	- 40	1 8
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	A 16 feet cord by 4 in depth and breadth.	6 hours - -	- 32	1 4
Weeding and thrashing canes -	100 roods - -	7 hours - -	- 40	1 8
Clearing trenches of grass - -	30 roods - - -	6 hours - -	- 32	1 4
Carrying megass - - -	Done by day, carrying for 4½ to 5 hhds. sugar a day.	From 10 to 11 hours.	Per hhd. - 72	3 -
Supplying canes to mill - -	Sometimes 20 to 24 punts daily.	10 hours -	For a man - 32	1 4
			For a boy - 24	1 -
	(signed)	*Donald C. Matheson*, Manager.		
PLANTATION GOLDSTON HALL:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	3 rods; 12 feet wide, 2 feet deep.	9 hours - -	- 96	4 -
Digging small drains one foot deep	40 rods - - -	8 hours - -	- 64	2 8
Holing cleared land - - -	ditto - - -	ditto - -	- 64	2 8
Shovel ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	50 roods - - -	ditto - -	- 64	2 8
Relieving, where the trash has been burnt before cutting the canes.	160 roods - -	6 to 6½ hours -	- 40	1 8
Supplying - - - - -	80 to 120 rods -	6 to 7 hours -	- 48	2 -
Weeding and moulding young canes.	80 to 100 rods -	6 hours - -	- 48	2 -
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	A 16-feet cord, where the trash is burnt before cutting.	5 hours - -	- 40	1 8
Weeding and thrashing canes -	80 to 100 rods -	6 hours - -	- 48	2 -
Clearing trenches of grass - -	30 to 50 rods - -	6 to 6½ hours -	- 48	2 -
Carrying megass - - -	By children and weak hands.	10 hours - -	- 16	- 8
Supplying canes to mill - -	6 hands, making 4 hogsheads sugar per day.	ditto - -	- 40	1 8
PLANTATION CANEFIELD:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	24 feet by 12 feet; 2 feet deep.	7 to 8 hours -	- 64	2 8
Digging small drains - - -	30 roods; 2½ ft. wide and 1 shovel deep.	- ditto - -	- 48	2 -
Holing cleared land - - -	30 roods; 2½ ft. wide, ½ shovel deep.	6 to 7 hours -	- 40	1 8
Shovel ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	66 to 70 roods, 2½ feet banks.	- ditto - -	- 48	2 -
Relieving - - - - -	80 to 100 roods -	5 to 6 hours -	- 32	1 4
Supplying - - - - -	- ditto - - -	6 to 7 hours -	- 32	1 4
Weeding and moulding young canes.	- ditto - - -	5 to 7 hours -	- 40	1 8
Cutting and carrying canes to punt	A 16-feet cord, 4 by 4	5 to 6 hours -	- 32	1 4
Weeding and thrashing canes -	80 to 100 roods -	5 to 7 hours -	- 40	1 8
Clearing trenches of grass - -	20 to 25 roods - -	5 to 6 hours -	- 24	1 -
Carrying megass - - -	12 to 16 creoles -	About 10 hours	- 20	- 10
Supplying canes to mill - -	6 men for about 4 hogsheads sugar.	- ditto - -	- 40	1 8

N.B.—The task given in the field depends in a great measure on the state of the soil, and the quantity of grass when weeding.

25 November 1857. (signed) *G. B. M'Kenzie Ross*, Manager.

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RATE of WAGES paid throughout District (K.), &c.—*continued.*

DESCRIPTION OF TASK.	QUANTITY OF WORK PERFORMED.	TIME TAKEN TO PERFORM THE TASK.	WAGES PAID.	
			Dols. cts.	*s. d.*
PLANTATION PROSPECT:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	3 rods, 12 feet wide, 2 feet deep.	9 hours - -	- 96	4 -
Digging small drains, 1 foot deep	40 rods - - -	8 hours - -	- 64	2 8
Holing cleared land - - -	40 rods - - -	- ditto - -	- 64	2 8
Shovel-ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	50 rods - - -	- ditto - -	- 64	2 8
Relieving where the trash has been burnt before cutting the canes.	160 rods - - - -	6 to 6 ½ hours -	- 40	1 8
Supplying - - - - -	80 to 120 rods - -	6 to 7 hours -	- 48	2 -
Weeding and moulding young canes.	80 to 100 rods - -	- ditto - -	- 48	2 -
Cutting and carrying canes to punt.	A 16-feet cord where trash is burnt before cutting.	5 hours - -	- 40	1 8
Weeding and thrashing canes -	80 to 100 rods - -	6 hours - -	- 48	2 -
Clearing trenches of grass - -	30 to 50 rods - -	6 to 6 ½ hours -	- 48	2 -
Carrying megass - - - -	By children and weak hands.	10 hours - -	- 16	- 8
Supplying canes to mill - -	6 hands, making 4 hogshead sugar per day.	- ditto - -	- 40	1 8
PLANTATION SMITHSON'S PLACE:				
Throwing out navigation canals or draining trenches.	600 cubic feet - -	about 8 hours -	1 44	6 -
Digging small drains - - -	22 rods, 2 feet by 1 -	about 6 hours -	- 48	2 -
Holing cleared land - - -	48 rods, 2 ½ feet by 1	about 5 hours -	- 64	2 8
Shovel-ploughing holed land and rounding beds.	- ditto - ditto -	- ditto - -	- 64	2 8
Relieving - - - - -	120 rods - - -	less than 5 hours	- 48	2 -
Supplying - - - - - -	The task depends upon the state of the field.		—	—
Weeding and moulding young canes.	120 rods - - -	less than 5 hours	- 48	2 -
Cutting and carrying canes to punt.	A cord, 14 feet by 4 × 4.	3 cords in 7 hours	- 32	1 4
Weeding and thrashing canes -	120 rods - - -	less than 5 hours	- 48	2 -
Clearing trenches of grass - -	The task entirely depends on the breadth and state of the trench.		—	—
Carrying megass - - -	per day - - -	- - -	- 32	1 4
Supplying canes to mill - -	per day - - -	- - -	- 40	1 8

23 November 1857. (signed) *Wm. Brice.*

Sir, Leguan, 31 December 1857.

WITH reference to the Circular, No. 861, of 19th November last, I have the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that I have consulted with all the leading proprietors and managers in this district, and they have all informed me that they have no reason to complain of the working of their coolies during the last few months; in fact, my abstract returns of business for the last six months will sufficiently prove the great paucity of complaints proffered against coolies as compared with those brought against creoles, and especially Africans. These two last classes have certainly evinced a great propensity to "take a walk" during the last few months, tempted, no doubt, by the high rates given for task-gang labour which have prevailed for some time past.

With regard to my views as to the working of Ordinance 7 of 1854, both as respects employer and employed, I am very reluctant to state them in a public official form, as a recent correspondence has shown me that they clash on some points with those of the executive. I allude here more particularly to the right of commutation conceded to the coolies under the 19th section of the Ordinance, which I look upon as the only privilege they possess under the whole Ordinance; and if it be impossible in a magistrate to encourage them in availing themselves of this privilege, the converse of the argument will hold good, namely, that it is very proper to discourage and dissuade them from claiming this privilege; and

and consequently the right of commutation becomes a mockery and delusion, and in my opinion had better be at once expunged from the Ordinance.

I have known instances where it was a positive boon to a coolie to be able to change his employer who has treated him badly; and yet, when such instances are known to the magistrate, it appears to be his duty to discourage such change. Again, there is no doubt that the free coolie can and does obtain task-gang prizes for his labour. The mere fact of his being able to purchase his free ticket shows his industry and ambition, and it is but a natural and laudable propensity that he should desire to get the same wages that he sees the creoles all around him getting. This question of wages brings me to the consideration of the last few lines of the 33d section of the Ordinance. It is almost impossible to find out in a legal form what wages are given to the creole labourers of the colony, but the coolies are still tasked and paid according to the tariff of wages published in the local guide.

I have only succeeded in one instance in having it proved on oath that the coolies were not paid and tasked at the same rate as the resident creoles, and this was in a case brought against some coolies at Plantation Melville, in Mahaica Creek, for short work, when it was proved in evidence that the coolies were paid four bits for the same task that the resident creole labourers (of which, by the bye, there were only five or six), were paid five bits for.

I have now been quartered in four different districts of the colony, and have in each been impressed with this difference in the rate of wages, which makes it very difficult to adjudicate in cases brought in contravention of the 33d section; and I would respectfully suggest that, if any amendments of the Ordinance are in contemplation, that this section should be revised, and rendered more definite in its provisions.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Sam. Bean*,
Stipendiary Magistrate, District (F).

The Hon. John Gardiner Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

Sir, District (H.) 9 January 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 19th November, calling upon me to report as to the behaviour of the coolie labourers during the last few months, and also requiring me to give my views generally relative to the working of Ordinance No. 7 of 1854, as well in regard to employers as employed. My inquiries relative to the industry of the coolie labourers during the last year, lead me to believe that the amount of work performed by them is in excess of previous years. I find on reference to my record book, that during the first half of 1857, I adjudicated 134 complaints of employers against coolie immigrants for non-performance of labour, and only 93 in the last six months; a fact which indicates that the employers were better satisfied with the industry of the coolies during the last-mentioned period. One manager informs me that his coolies worked better in 1857 than they did in 1856, and that they usually perform five tasks per week, of 20 cents. each. Another stated, "that the coolies work, it may be said, regularly five days, but then even the men don't perform a full task; they are not physically equal to the creole; they average about 20 cents per day; a great deal of drunkenness among the coolies, and this is one reason of their performing less labour." A third showed, by a return he furnished me with, that 120 coolies, during the first ten months of that year, had averaged 139 tasks of 32 cents each.

The returns published in January 1857, by order of the Court of Policy, showed that the average number of tasks performed by the coolies on 39 estates, during the whole of the year 1855, was only 139.

I certainly should not have volunteered to give an opinion relative to the working of Ordinance No. 7 of 1854, for he must be very unobservant who has failed to perceive how extremely intolerant public opinion here is with regard to the labour question; and as any legislation which is supposed to have the effect of putting the screw on the working classes is highly popular with employers, he who would express a doubt as to the necessity or expediency, or justice of such measures, would encounter no small degree of hostility. But as his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to call upon me to state my views generally relative to the working of the Immigration Ordinance, both with regard to employers and employed, I consider it to be my duty to do so unreservedly and candidly, and without any concealment of my real sentiments.

In the first place, the practical effect of the Ordinance in question, is to place the immigrant wholly at the mercy of the employer, who has it in his power to cause him to be punished by fine or imprisonment at any time; for the law renders a coolie immigrant liable to a fine of 23 dollars, or 30 days' imprisonment, should he fail during any one week to perform five tasks, such as are assigned to the creole labourers of the colony; this task is of the value of 32 cents. That the coolies cannot, and do not perform it, is a fact so well known that it admits of no denial; but if it requires to be supported by proof, I would point to the returns published by order of the Court of Policy, on the 7th of January 1857, where, as I have already stated, the average number of tasks performed by the coolies of 39 estates, for the year 1855, was 139, being 121 under the legal requirement, which is 260. It is evident, therefore, that the employer may obtain a conviction against the coolie every or any week in the year, and it cannot be doubted that with labour in such demand, and armed with such coercive power as employers are under the Ordinance, they would

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would exact the completion of the legal number of tasks from the coolies, did they find it possible to do so. The law is then only not intolerable to the indentured coolie, because his employer, convinced of its impracticability, does not, with commendable prudence, venture to enforce it. It may be urged that the coolie is capable of performing annually 260 tasks, that in not doing so he fails in his engagements to the colony, and is, therefore, justly liable to punishment. To this I would reply, that the experience of at least 12 years, during which time they have been imported into the colony, refutes the assertion as to their capability; they have never during that time performed even one-half (180) the legal number of tasks; and upon what ground does the assertion or supposition rest that they could perform 260? Unused to the rigid and laborious work required on sugar plantations, the coolie's diet which, I may say, consists wholly of rice, unfits him for severe or continuous exertion. It has been established by the interesting experiments of Dr. Beaumont, that boiled rice is digested by the human stomach in one hour. The surgeon of Capvey Tail, an excellent chemist, when the prisoners complained in 1852 of the insufficiency of rice as food, found by careful experiment that 16 ounces of boiled rice, the ration allowed to a prisoner sentenced to hard labour, when dried, contained only 3 § ounces of solid nourishment; nothing, as he stated, but "pure water was lost" during the drying. A consideration of these facts may lead us to doubt whether men in a tropical climate, who live wholly on such innutritious food as rice, are capable of performing 260 tasks annually, and thereby escaping punishment. In the second place, the practical effect of the Ordinance is to compel the coolie immigrant to work for far less remuneration than he could obtain if he were unshackled by an indenture.* The returns already quoted show that at present his earnings seem scarcely sufficient to furnish him with the actual necessaries of life. The indenture is said to be requisite for the protection of the coolie, but it would be nearer the truth to say that it is necessary to protect the planters from competition among themselves for his services. It is plausibly urged that the coolies derive great benefit from their migration to Guiana, and are therefore bound to repay their importers, the employers, by serving under indenture for five years; and the amount of ready money taken away by them on their return to India is cited as undeniable proof of the remunerative employment they meet with here. But we have seen that the average earnings of the coolies do not exceed 139 tasks or guilders per annum, or $ 44. 48., being 9*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, not quite 7*d.* sterling per day. How, then, it will be asked, can such great savings accrue from such inconsiderable earnings? I admit that I could not reconcile these apparently contradictory facts until the Royal Gazette of the 6th October 1857 published some particulars relative to the coolies who sailed in the "Hamilla Mitchell." The editor of the paper, whose information was no doubt obtained from official sources, stated that 277 coolies took away with them $ 28,959. 88., being 4,000 dollars in excess of the highest sum taken away by the return immigrants in any previous vessel. I may therefore safely take the "Hamilla Mitchell" as a correct standard by which to measure the success of the agricultural coolie of British Guiana. We are, however, informed that 11 of these persons were shopkeepers, and that the amount possessed by them was 10,543 dollars. This sum, acquired by trade and not by labour, must be deducted from the aggregate amount, $ 28,959. 88., if we would wish to ascertain correctly what the savings of the agricultural labourers amounted to. The editor has only selected 11 of the largest depositors, who were all shopkeepers. Probably there were others whose acquisitions were also the result of trade; but taking it for granted that the remaining number, 258 (the eight infants being deducted), were all field labourers, the balance, $ 18,416. 88., would give an average of $ 71. 38. for each. I have not access to the records of the Immigration Agent General's Office, but there is no doubt that a great number of the 258 persons had served a second term, and had consequently received the bonus of 50 dollars. In all these cases, then, the savings from actual agricultural labour during 10 years would only be $ 21. 38. or $ 2. 13. per annum; including the bonus, it would be $ 7. 13. per annum; not quite 1*d.* per diem. In the others it would be $ 71. 38. for five years, or $ 14. 27. per annum; barely 2*d.* per day. And will any one seriously say that the mortality of the passage from and back to India, and the death and demoralization caused by the inequality of the sexes and drunkenness in this colony, where drinking is so cheap a vice, are counterbalanced by the acquisition, as shown by the most favourable instance that could be quoted, of 1*d.* or 2*d.* a day, and this from earnings which official returns have proved barely amount to 7*d.* daily? It may easily be imagined how the immigrant fares, and what privation he endures, on 5*d.* a day in so expensive a colony: Guiana is indeed no land of Canaan to him, flowing with milk and honey.

In the next place, the effect of the Ordinance is not only to prevent the coolie adopting, on his arrival here, the occupation to which he has been accustomed, but debars him from the choice of the location he would prefer. It is true that section 20 of the Ordinance in question directs the Immigration Agent General to locate them on such plantations as they may prefer; but this is a mere *ad captandum* provision. It is practically impossible to do so; for when the cost of importation was paid from the Colonial treasury it is evident that an equal distribution of the immigrants had to be made among the planters, the tax-payers. And now that the employer, who receives them, has to defray the expense of the voyage from

* In proof of which I would state, that I have received a return from one estate, showing that 70 indentured coolies earned $ 2,765. 12. during 1857, or $ 39. 50. each person, while 13 non-indentured earned $ 655. 8, or $ 50. 38. per annum.

from India, estimated at $50, they must be allotted to those who are capable of complying with the terms of purchase. They are all, both male and female, indentured indiscriminately as agricultural labourers, without reference to their former vocations. These circumstances would unquestionably form a serious ground of objection against migration to Guiana with the working classes of any country. Again, the indenture of the women, and their consequent liability to punishment by fine and imprisonment for not performing five tasks of 32 cents each weekly, causes serious dissatisfaction to the coolie immigrant. Nor is this to be wondered at, for Mr. Caird, the agent at Calcutta, who spent a week with me on his visit to the colony, assured me that the indenturing of the women was a breach of the engagement he entered into with their husbands at Calcutta, for they were distinctly informed that the women would not be compelled to work in Guiana: and indeed the Immigration Ordinance of the Mauritius only refers to "male immigrants," and the females are not liable to labour by law. It would be well to imitate the example of the Mauritius planter in this respect. The inhabitants of Madeira refused to migrate to the colony under the provisions of this Ordinance, and it will, in like manner, I am persuaded, have the effect of extinguishing voluntary immigration to Guiana from any country, as soon as experience has made the inhabitants acquainted with the practical effect of its provisions: it was, in my very humble opinion, a short-sighted policy which permitted its enactment. In conclusion, I hope that the Lieutenant Governor will pardon the freedom with which I have expressed my views. It is a task I have only performed in obedience to his commands; the subject is by no means exhausted, but to pursue it further at present would extend this letter to an unreasonable length.

I have, &c.

To Stephen H. Goodman, Esq. (signed) *Edward Carbery*, S. M.
Acting Assistant Government Secretary.

Sir, Annandale, 10 January 1858.

In reply to your Circular, No. 861 of the 19th November, having reference to the reports which "are constantly reaching the Government" of the "disposition of the immigrants to evade, as much as possible, the obligation to labour,"—

I have the honour to state, in obedience to his Excellency's commands, that I do not consider these reports have any reference to my district, for at the very time that I received your Circular, the planters were assuring me that the coolies were doing very well; and several expressed themselves even more strongly. I consider that the coolies perform as much labour as they are physically capable of, and with a law as the planters have at their command. I have to report that out of a coolie population of nearly 1,000 persons only 66 were convicted of idleness or neglect of duty during the first half year of 1857, and 89 during the second half year.

I have, &c.

The Honourable J. G. Austin, (signed) *Wm. Humphreys*,
Acting Government Secretary. S. T. P. Dis. (G.)

Government Secretary's Office, Georgetown,
Your Excellency, Demerara, 19 April 1858.

The position held by me for some years past as Immigration Agent General having induced your Excellency to call for a report in reference to the replies addressed to me by the special justices in answer to the circular Despatch of the 19th of November last, I beg to submit the following comments for observation.

I may premise, however, by pointing out to your Excellency that for some months previous to the issue of the circular, accounts were almost daily made to the Government, complaining of the difficulties experienced by the planters in the rapid advance of wages, and abandonment of cultivation in consequence of the unwillingness both of creoles and immigrants to work.

With a view to ascertain whether the planters had any just cause for their complaints, and whether any remedy was necessary and could be applied to those whose obligations were special, viz., the immigrants, your Excellency was pleased to call for reports from the magistrates on "the working of Ordinance 7 of 1854, as well in regard to employers as employed." And it is with these, or some of them I would more correctly say, that I am called upon to grapple.

I have no observations to offer on that of Mr. MacLeod the oldest magistrate in the colony, and formerly protector of slaves in Berbice, or on those of Messrs. Humphrys, Sandiford, M'Swiney, Davis, Crosby, and Ware. As the opinions expressed by those gentlemen are very similar to my own, viz., that if the parties interested do not derive from Ordinance 7 of 1854, with the amendments since made, all the benefits it is calculated to ensure, the fault is their own, as no law could well be framed more calculated to secure even-handed justice as well to employer as employed.

There are but three magistrates, therefore, whose reports require to be dealt with, viz., Messrs. Tucker, Bean, and Carbery; and, indeed, but for the recommendation made by the first-named gentleman of the necessity for greater stringency in the laws (which I would

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most decidedly deprecate), I should have considered the only reports requiring special attention to be those of Messrs. Bean and Carbery.

The former gentleman, whose services are now unfortunately lost to the colony, objected first, to the interference of Government in reference to the only privilege, as he conceived, secured to the immigrant in the right of commutation under sect. 19 of the Ordinance; second, to the difference of the wages paid to the indented and unindented coolies, and third, to the vagueness of sect. 33.

Your Excellency is aware that by section 19 of the Ordinance, a coolie is at liberty to pay 24 dollars to the Immigration Agent General in redemption of the fourth and fifth years' service under contract, or 12 dollars for the fifth only; and in the exercise of what he considered to be his duty, and with a view to benefit as he conceived the interests of the coolie, Mr. Bean was in the habit of recommending them to take the first possible opportunity of throwing off their contracts. The general exercise of this privilege was calculated to operated so injuriously, as I thought, to the interests of the colony, which require settled labour, and so ruinously to the coolies, as inducing them to incur a tax on their savings of one dollar per month, for no advantage to be attained save in becoming a monthly instead of annual labourer, that I used all the influence I possessed with them, and with great success, to check it. But a few weeks had elapsed after my temporary appointment to this office, when Mr. Williams, the Acting Immigration Agent General, reported the steps being taken by Mr. Bean in his district to counteract my plans, when your Excellency was pleased to direct an intimation to be sent to that gentleman to the effect that you concurred in my views.

The second point urges by Mr. Bean appears to me to answer itself; as, if after all vigilant search for years in important districts but one case could be established, it may reasonably be inferred that the planters are, as a body, too honest to attempt to deprive their indented labourers of their undoubted right to receive payment for their labour at the highest wages paid on the estate to resident unindented labourers.

The third and last objection taken by Mr. Bean, viz., to the vagueness of the 33d section, is more for the consideration of the Attorney General than mine, but I cannot but observe that it appears to me to define industrial service with especial clearness, viz.: as seven hours work in the field, ten hours in the buildings; or in the case of task work, which the former always is, as five tasks of the extent assigned per week to creole labourers.

I have only now to deal with the report of Mr. Carbery, which can hardly be considered a commentary "on the working of Ordinance 7 of 1854, as well in regard to employers as employed," to which attention was alone requested, but an uncalled for attack upon the policy of the Government which framed the Bill.

"It was a short-sighted policy which permitted its enactment," he observes in the fifth count of his bill of indictment, &c.; and as it appears to me expedient that the causes which led to the passing of the measure should be brought prominently forward before the Bill itself is vindicated, I will first dispose of the last charge brought against the Government. Your Excellency is well aware, I doubt not, to what terrible mortality the wandering habits of the coolies gave rise during those first months after arrival, in which the process of acclimatisation should have gone on under the careful surveillance of the employers. It was to check this evil, a continuance of which must have led to the cessation of all immigration, that the attention of Government was turned, and no one urged more loudly than Mr. Carbery the absolute necessity of indentures in the interests of the immigrants. Indeed, if references were made to the Governor's papers towards the close of 1845, it will be found, I doubt not, that both Mr. Carbery and myself, foreseeing what was likely to occur, urged strongly on Governor Light the great importance of immediately grappling with the question. Our views were even assented to, when, in an evil hour, the dread of the prying eyes (as it was then thought) of a stipendiary magistrate induced many influential planters to remonstrate against our plans; and the Government, withdrawing from its first wise resolve, abandoned the idea of indentures, until our prognostics had been so verified by the experience of two years, as to leave no alternative but to resort to them or stop the introduction of Indian immigrants.

In 1848, accordingly, the first Immigration Ordinance, No. 3 of that year, was passed, and, if we may judge from the reports made to the Government by the stipendiary magistrates in August 1849, there was no objection to its provisions, although the immigrants were restricted by industrial service quite as stringent as that now so vehemently attacked in Ordinance 7 of 1854, by Mr. Carbery.

It is needless now to investigate the causes which led to the repeal of 3 of 1848, and, in time, to the one repealing it, viz., 21 of 1851; suffice it to say that both were, to a great extent, inoperative, and that when appointed to the office of Immigration Agent General, in 1853, I could give no satisfactory reply from its records to the queries emanating by the Court of Policy in respect to the number of coolies becoming entitled to back passage or bounty. That a large number of immigrants had been indented to estates in 1848, was clear enough, but where they were in 1853, and how many were dead or living, was not to be ascertained, either from the office records or the magistrates, the latter having in a very large number of instances returned the lists forwarded to them by me, with such remarks as the following:—"These coolies left the estate a few days after they were sent to it, and I can get no information at all in respect to them." As such a state of things could not be allowed to continue without detriment to public and private interests, the attention of Governor Wodehouse was early turned to the application of a remedy, and with a view to rouse the dormant provisions of previous Ordinances, not to make the law

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one whit the more stringent, the Ordinance 7 of 1854, which has been so reflected on by Mr. Carbery, was passed.

I now turn to the objections made by this gentleman, and which are as follows:—

First, That the practical effect of the Ordinance is to place the immigrant wholly at the mercy of his employer, in consequence of the industrial service fixed by law being beyond his physical ability.

Secondly, That the indented immigrant is compelled to work for less than he could obtain if unshackled by indenture.

Thirdly, That he is debarred the choice of location on arrival, sec. 20 being a mere "ad captandum provision," and the terms of his "purchase" preventing all choice.

Fourthly, That the women are indented, contrary to the understanding in India.

For proof of his first charge, that the practical effect of the Ordinance ~~is to place~~ the immigrant wholly at the mercy of his employer, Mr. Carbery relies on the acknowledged physical inability, as he is pleased to assume, of a healthy cooly to perform the industrial service fixed by law. It is a fact so well known, he observes, that it admits of no denial; and but for the absence of anything like proof and the apparent ignorance of all the other stipendiary magistrates, I should have some diffidence in giving, as I now do, the most explicit denial to an assertion calculated to do such serious injury to the interests of the colony, if left uncontradicted.

Your Excellency will observe, that not a single case of hardship is advanced by Mr. Carbery; that, on the contrary, the amount of work performed by the coolies is acknowledged to be in excess of previous years; that the complaints of employers against employed are stated to have been reduced fully one-third; and, lastly, that the practical working of the Ordinance is admitted to have had the effect of causing the "employers to be more satisfied with the industry of the employed."

All Mr. Carbery's arguments, therefore, are advanced against a state of things which he admits do not exist, and against the possibility of hardships and heartburnings which might only, he opines, have arisen through the short-sighted policy of the Government, had the planters been deficient in "commendable prudence."

Under these circumstances, evidence in disproof might almost be held superfluous; but in the interests of the colony I deem it right to point out by figures that Mr. Carbery has not reconciled what he admits to be the contradictory facts of the large amount taken away by coolies, with the average earnings of not quite 7*d.* per day, which he assumes to have been incontestably proved by the returns to the Court of Policy in 1857.

These returns prove, Mr. Carbery assumes, first, that the cooly is physically unable to perform the 260 tasks of 32 cents; secondly, that they are not so performed; and, lastly, that the earnings are insufficient to enable him to do so.

Now, no one knows better than Mr. Carbery, that a cooly is not bound to perform 260 tasks in the year, as he is entitled to claim deductions (and they are considerable, by the testimony of Mr. Ware), on the plea of sickness, whenever he is really sick, or whenever he feels disposed to feign it, either from idleness or dislike of the work which he is ordered to perform. Again, no one knows better than Mr. Carbery, that to strike an average, as was done in the returns for the Court of Policy in 1857, of all coolies resident on an estate, men, women, and children, healthy and sick, is not the way to arrive at the physical ability of healthy adults to perform the work stipulated by law; and, lastly, no one knows better, that the appearance of the coolies, throughout the length and breadth of the country, so completely disproves the idea of their earnings being insufficient to provide the food necessary for their sustenance, and to prevent their "enduring those privations" which he is pleased to assert "may be so easily imagined."

To prove these imaginings, Mr. Carbery is driven to attempt to reconcile what he admits to be contradictory facts, and as I shall prove him to have completely failed, I hope he will be disposed frankly to admit in his own words that the "Hamilla Mitchell" "is a correct standard by which to measure the success of agricultural coolies of British Guiana."

The coolies, by this vessel, as he correctly observes, took away with them $ 28,959. 88., or 4,000 dollars, in excess of the highest sum taken away by the return immigrants in any previous vessel, and 11 of them, by extending their residence in the colony for a second term, were enabled by labour and trade as sirdars and shopkeepers on their respective estates, to realise amongst them and their families no less a sum than $ 10,543. This cannot be admitted to be otherwise than an important and cheering fact in connexion with immigration from the East; but Mr. Carbery uses it as an engine against agricultural pursuits, and by throwing the wives and children of the sirdars, some 30 in number, amongst those by whom the balance of $ 18,416. 88. was to be distributed in India, and by assuming also, "beyond a doubt," because he had "not access to the records of the Immigration Office," that a very large number of the other passengers had been 10 years in the colony, and had taken a bonus of 50 dollars for the last five years, he arrives at the, to him, very interesting conclusion, that after a servitude of 10 years, "amidst great privations," the poor agricultural cooly could only have gone back with $ 21. 38. Now, it so happened, that amongst the passengers per "Hamilla Mitchell," there were 173 coolies, who had only been five years in the colony, who had been indented the whole period, who were purely agriculturists, who carried away with them in Government bills no less a sum than $ 17,790. 54., or an average of 104 dollars, besides a very large sum in bangles, and not less than 5 dollars per head at

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the lowest estimate in cash, to meet immediate wants on arrival, besides 5 dollars invested by each in warm clothing.

Having thus disposed of Mr. Carbery's first charge, I proceed to the second, viz., that the indented immigrant is compelled to work for less wages than he could obtain if unshackled by indenture. To this I have to reply by enclosing herewith extracts from the reports of the stipendiary magistrates in August 1849, and by stating that there are two scales of wages throughout the whole colony, one paid to all resident labourers, whether indented or unindented, immigrants or creoles, and another to task-gang labourers, residing in their own cottages, and having no claim on their employers for medical attendance when sick. This does not appear to me to place the indented cooly in a disadvantageous position, as he receives the same wages as an unindented cooly, working on the property on monthly hiring.

On the third of Mr. Carbery's charges, viz., that the cooly is debarred the choice of location on arrival, section 20 being a mere "ad captandum," provision, and the terms of his "purchase," preventing all choice, I take leave to observe, that "ad captandum" and "purchase" are two very extraordinary expressions for an officer to make use of in reference to the policy of the Government under which he is serving. Both show the animus of the party using them, and the determination recklessly to insult, I might almost say, the legislature of the colony; for what graver charge can be made than that a section of an Ordinance was framed for the sole purpose of deceiving Her Majesty's Government and the East India Company, and that our transactions in respect to the immigrants are of such a character as to expose us to a charge so revolting to British ears of "selling" the people temporarily consigned to our care. Your Excellency knows well that under 3 of 1848 no choice whatever of location was given to the coolies, in consequence of their total ignorance of the country, and that the alteration was made in Ordinance 7 of 1854 for the express purpose of giving a choice to any return coolies, and to all the Portuguese introduced under indenture. Not one single Portuguese has ever found section 20 deceptive, nor have any return coolies been debarred their free right of choice. Indeed it was only the other day that a family returning by the "White Eagle" intimated their wish to go to Essequebo, and not only was no opposition offered, but full permission was given to all friends to select the same locality. As it turned out, all went to Berbice, as the head of the family preferred accompanying all the coolies thither, and being made a sirdar on Colonel Stopford Blair's estates, to becoming a simple labourer where he had previously lived.

The last charge brought against the Government of a breach of faith on our part in respect to the indenting of women, is one that I am not prepared to answer. I had many conversations with Mr. Caird, when in the colony, and no one could speak more favourably than he did of the appearance and contentedness of the coolies; but he never intimated that we must be prepared to put an end to the indenting of women. As regards the value of their services, I do not apprehend there could be much difference whether there was a contract to work, as at present, or only to reside where the husband was located, as the jealousy of the husband would compel the wife's presence in the field, and when there, the inclination of both would lead to the profitable use of her time.

I cannot close this report without bringing to your Excellency's notice the fact of Mr. Carbery and myself having been consulted together by Governor Wodehouse, relative to the definition of industria service in Ordinance 7 of 1854, and to his having concurred with me in fixing five guilders per week as the amount which could be estimated as the earnings of a healthy cooly. That was the time to have spoken of the "short-sighted policy" of the Government: that was the time to have inveighed against indentures: that was the time to have enlarged on the impropriety of a British colony putting up British subjects to sale to be "purchased" by the highest bidder: that was the time in all propriety and honesty of purpose when the Governor of the colony was inviting the opinions of all whose experience gave weight to their views, to have given advice, to have warned, and, if need be, to have remonstrated; but all was then either acquiescence or silence; and now only, when the action of the Ordinance is admitted to have been healthy, with the qualification of this happy state of things being the result of forbearance on the part of the employers; and when there is complete unanimity between planters and immigrants, we are gratuitously upbraided with a short-sighted policy, dishonest intention, and unprincipled actions.

I need say no more on the subject; and yet it may not be amiss, in conclusion, to draw your Excellency's attention to the deposits of $ 89,817. 52. made by 1,067 coolies, in the savings bank (being an average of $ 83. 60.) in proof of their ability to save, and to the annual voluntary renewal of indentures by some 1,500 coolies, in proof of their having no dread of those "privations" which Mr. Carbery is of opinion can be "so easily imagined."

I have, &c.

To His Excellency William Walker, Esq.
Lieutenant Governor.

(signed) *J. Gardiner Austin,*
Acting Government Secretary.

Encl. 5, in No. 39.

Enclosure 5, in No. 39.

EXTRACTS from the Reports of the Stipendiary Magistrates in August 1849.

WITH respect to the tendency of indentures to promote steady and continuous industry, I am not of opinion that they have much, if any effect; but I consider that they throw more responsibility on the employer.

George Ball.

All immigrants on arrival ought to be placed under indenture of service for at least three years, and that such indentures might be temperately but at the same time firmly enforced; and that not merely for the protection of the interests of the employer, but for the benefit of the immigrant himself.

J. O. L. Mure.

That such contracts tend to promote more clearly and continuous industry admits of no doubt; for the employer has the power to enforce the punctual attendance of the labourers to their duties, and the latter understand this, and are therefore attentive and willing to perform their part of the contract, as the almost total absence of complaints clearly shows.

D. MacLennan.

It is my opinion that these indentures with reference to Africans and coolies tend to promote steady and continuous labour.

A. M. Lyons.

The tendency of indentures is decidedly advantageous to the employed, as well as the employer. The indentured labourers acquire habits of industry which they never can whilst they rove about unsettled and discontented from estate to estate.

J. D. Fraser.

The imprudence and inexperience of immigrants on their first arrival in the West Indies renders an apprenticeship a humane measure of precaution, and also that the planter may reasonably expect some remuneration in the shape of continuous labour from the people who have received his care, and been instructed in the new avocations of his exertions.

S. R. Ricketts.

I am strongly of opinion that a system of indentures is absolutely necessary for the class of immigrants imported to this country. The habits of the immigrants both from India and Africa are decidedly migratory; and unless placed under some kind of restraint on their arrival, to gradually impress on their minds the necessity of sober and steady labour, I consider the object of their transmission nugatory.

C. A. Goodman.

I am of opinion that these indentures are calculated to afford to the indentured labourers great advantages in the responsibility which they throw upon the employer, of affording regular work and wages, and attendance in sickness to the immigrant labourer.

J. Brumell.

No complaints have been judicially preferred by the employers against coolies for breach of their indentures. When they idle, which they often do, they are paid in proportion to the work they do; and when they leave the estate, the manager does not think it worth his while to send after them.

W. J. Brittain.

These indentures are certainly the means of promoting steady and continuous industry among the immigrants, while they also throw much responsibility upon the employers. I am not aware that these indentures occasion discontent among the immigrants.

C. H. Strutt.

District (G).

Sir, County Essequebo, 11 August 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 24th ultimo, and now respectfully submit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the following answers to the inquiries therein contained:—

1. The number of labourers under indenture in the district is at present 185, viz., 189 Africans and 96 coolies.

2. Africa and India.

3. They are all indentured for three years: their indentures commenced in March, July, and September 1848.

4. Since I received the charge of this district (18th May 1849) only one complaint was preferred by the indentured Africans of Spring Garden; but this was a sort of counter-charge to the complaint of the manager, who obtained a conviction against one of them for refusing to work.

5. Two complaints from the proprietor of Warnburg against two of the indentured coolies for refusing to labour, and inciting the others to follow their example; a warrant was also obtained by the same party against two who had absconded, and were supposed to be harboured in Leguan.

6. The indentured immigrant when first located on a plantation, is no doubt dissatisfied at finding that he does not possess the unrestricted privilege of roaming about the colony

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which he sees enjoyed by numbers of his countrymen whose arrivals have preceded his; but this feeling soon subsides. The Sugar Duties Bill of 1846 has materially lessened the unwise competition for labour which existed among the planters; and the indentured immigrant, after a lapse of three or four months, becomes aware of the advantages of permanent employment; he soon learns that a change of location is not likely to secure him higher wages, or more liberal treatment, and is intelligent enough to appreciate the advantages he derives from being in the service of one who is bound to provide him with medical attendance when sick.

I do not think that immigration will result in advantage either to the employer or the employed, unless based on a system of indenture; to continue for at least three years. It is no exaggeration to say that all the destitution and consequent mortality among the coolie immigrants would not have occurred had they been, on their first arrival in the colony, indentured for a period of three or five years. Whatever opinions might formerly have been entertained on this subject, when the prices of colonial produce were high, capital more abundant than labour, and an immoderate remuneration offered for every description of work on an estate, it cannot be doubted now that the immigrant who is indentured for a term of years, and can claim from his employer care and attention when disabled by sickness and constant employment when in health, is in a position of great advantage. I have never found the planters wanting in liberality to the immigrants when their services were secured by indenture for a specific period; but when, as in numberless instances which have come to my knowledge, the first use which the immigrant made of this restored strength was to leave the estate where he had been attended during his illness at the expense of his employer, it was not to be wondered at, that as soon as they were unable to labour, the custom became general of discharging them, or sending them up to town, to seek for admission into the Colonial hospital. The indentured immigrants of this district would, I believe, if released from their engagements, nearly all remain on the estates to which they are at present attached. In support of this opinion, I would observe, that the Africans indentured in 1847, for 18 months, to Hurstdinen, Aurora, Hamburg, and Sophonisburg, whose contracts have expired, are nearly all to be found on these estates, and this disinclination to change their original place of residence proceeds, I think, partly from local attachment, but chiefly from a conviction that higher wages or greater advantages are not to be obtained by a change of employer. The tabular return which I have the honour to enclose shows that 17 immigrants have absconded out of the 220 originally received in the district; eight of these were Africans from the "Zorg," who were very shortly after their arrival induced to desert, as it is believed, by one of their countrymen, a captured African, who had been in the colony some time, but against whom sufficient proof could not be adduced; nor has their place of retreat ever been discovered. It is supposed that they are harboured or concealed by the settlers up the Demerara River.

The coolies from Hoff van Holland and Hamburg ran away, I understand, to join some of their friends, who arrived in the same vessel, and were allotted to distant estates; indeed, I am persuaded that the wish to change their original place of location would not exist among the immigrants if all who arrive in a vessel were sent to contiguous plantations. Highly advantageous as the indenture is, in my opinion, to the immigrant, it is, I think, absolutely necessary for the protection of the planter. It is only by having a fixed and certain supply of labour on his estate that he can ever be enabled to resist successfully the strikes and combinations for higher wages, which are perpetually taking place among the creole population, and which are alike injurious to the employer and employed.

The deficiency of industry on the part of the indentured immigrants, which is sometimes complained of by the managers, is in a great measure, I am persuaded, to be attributed to the example intimidation of the creoles, who, strange to say, since the commencement of the year, when a reduction of wages took place, seem to have limited themselves to the performance of about half a task per day.

Sic. in orig.

With the indenture the immigrant becomes a useful and industrious member of society, his labours alike profitable to himself and his master; without it he too often degenerates into a wandering mendicant, a nuisance and disgrace to the colony, and finishing his career in the public hospital.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Carbery*,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

W. B. Wolseley, Esq.
Circuit Stipendiary Magistrate,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 6, in No. 39.

Encl. 6, in No. 39. Draft.

Sir, Government House, Demerara, 1858.

1. In some former Despatches I intimated an intention of furnishing you with the results of my inquiries into the state of the supply of labour in this colony.

2. I propose now to submit the conclusions at which I have arrived, supporting them by the authorities whence they are deduced; but I regret to be obliged to premise that the materials at my disposal have fallen far short, in point both of completeness and accuracy, of what I had anticipated.

3. Shortly

3. Shortly after my return to the colony, in July last, my attention was attracted by the apparently unusual number of cases of commitments of indentured labourers for breaches of contract; and at the same time I heard on all sides of the increasing scarcity, uncertainty, and cost of creole labour.

4. Anxious to satisfy myself as to the facts, and, if these were established, as to their causes, I addressed private inquiries to gentlemen—some in official positions, others connected with estates—resident in the different districts of the colony; and I followed these up by circular instructions to the stipendiary magistrates, requesting them to obtain and furnish the necessary data, both in respect to creoles and to immigrant labourers.

5. Having, while administering this Government in 1848, circulated a form, to be filled up by gentlemen in charge of estates, I considered it advisable to adopt the same plan in the present instance, so that a comparison might be instituted between the two periods; but the answers furnished are quite insufficient to enable me to submit such a statement as would alone be of any value. I forward some of the forms as returned to the magistrates, which will sufficiently establish this fact.

6. Adverting, in the first instance, to the native agricultural population, I find a very general concurrence of opinion in all the communications I have received, with two remarkable exceptions, to which I shall presently allude. It would seem that there has been a decided increase of the price paid for labour during the year 1857; that the result of such rise has been not to stimulate the labourer to greater or more sustained exertion, but the reverse; that the rise in wages is attributable partly to the effects of the epidemic cholera which prevailed during the early part of the year, and partly to the fact of an extension of the cultivation consequent upon the high prices of produce in the home markets; and that, while the native peasantry are capricious in their selection of work, and not to be depended upon for continuous labour, they have been orderly and respectful in their demeanour. It should, moreover, be borne in mind that during a great part of the year, plantains, their staple food, were plentiful and cheap; and that such of them as possess grounds of their own, and pay attention to them, can readily make more by their produce than by the highest rate of wages which an estate could afford to give for ordinary labour in the field.

7. The two magistrates, however, namely, Messrs. Carbery and Humphrys, who are both stationed in adjoining districts in the county of Essequebo, and to whom I have alluded as constituting exceptions in some respects to the general tenor of the reports made in regard to other districts, assert that there has been, in fact, no advance of wages; that the earnings of the peasantry upon estates are barely adequate to provide them with the necessaries of life; and that the employers can command as much labour as they require if they will only pay a fair rate of remuneration for it. I can only infer, either that there must be some remarkable difference between the state of things in Essequebo and elsewhere in the colony, or that these magistrates view the same state of things through some very opposite medium to that employed by others.

8. With the most earnest desire to form an impartial judgment from the materials before me, I am compelled to adopt the conclusions of the majority; and I trust I shall not be so far misunderstood as to have it supposed that I intend thereby to imply any sweeping censure against the native labouring population of the colony. It is a trite maxim, that no man will labour for the love of labour; and as no one will contend that the peasantry of these colonies have attained a high degree of civilisation, the stimulus to their exertions is necessarily confined to the supply of their animal wants. It is doubtless very desirable that the class in question should be elevated in the scale of humanity, but it should not be forgotten that daily labour in the mere tillage of the soil is, as a general rule, incompatible with high intellectual endowments, and equally so with aspirations after a greatly exalted state of physical comfort. It is therefore, in my humble opinion, not so much to be wondered at that they have not continued to improve their social position, as it is matter for regret that they have to some extent retrograded from the standard they had attained some years after their emancipation.

9. Speaking generally (as all these remarks must be understood), we do not, I think, find the same pains taken to have good houses, good furniture, or good clothes, as was the case at the time to which I allude, while I believe the result of the acquisition of lands of their own has in too many instances proved to be by no means without drawback. So long, indeed, as the possessor is able to work the land himself it is very well; but his children as they grow up disperse and provide for themselves elsewhere; and when the parent becomes too aged and infirm to labour, the possession of the land may involve some liabilities, but is attended with little benefit. Again, there are seldom indications to be observed in the larger villages of the completion of houses commenced, or of the repair of those in want of it, and it seems not improbable that eventually many of this class will be driven to choose between tenancy of estates' houses or a residence in the town, already overcrowded with them, or retirement to the less densely populated districts.

10. In all this, be it remembered, there may be neglect of social obligations and indifference to self-improvement, but there is nothing absolutely illegal; and I very much doubt whether, in any equal amount of population situated in similar circumstances of intelligence, education, and temptation, we should find a smaller proportion of crimes of great magnitude.

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11. A great obstacle in my estimation to the improvement of the peasantry in their social position and industrious habits is the want of a suitable agency, which should unobtrusively but firmly and perseveringly point out their shortcomings, and urge them onwards to better things. They are an easily impressible race, but impressions of good in them, as in those possessing superior advantages, are more readily effaced than their opposite. The ministers of religion and their auxiliaries, the catechists and teachers, numerous as they may appear to be when reckoned up, are comparatively powerless for a work of such magnitude, to be pursued in such a climate, and over such an extent of country. Nor have we any laymen enjoying sufficient leisure for such employment, even did they possess in other respects the very peculiar qualifications required.

12. The time of men of this class is too constantly absorbed in the discharge of official or professional duties, or in the pursuit of business; and the position of many is too uncertain to admit of their acquiring that influence over the people, which can only exist where a practical and unselfish interest is manifested in their affairs. Nor can it be asserted that the fruits of such interest, were it displayed, would be invariably satisfactory. In weighing, however, the complaints made as regards the native peasantry, it should be considered that the class of employers also is not infallible, and that both are here placed in a relative position the most unfavourable for the development of the better qualities of character, and the cultivation of a better mutual understanding.

13. I greatly fear that this must continue to be so until large accessions of labourers shall equalise the pressure, and enable capitalists to prosecute their cultivation of the great staples, while the peasantry will be at liberty, if they prefer it, to apply themselves to other branches of industry. It is needless to point out that this country can bear any amount of population who can support themselves by the cultivation of the soil; and that an increase of population of this class infers a due proportion of those of superior intelligence and education, such as are wanted to leaven and influence the masses for good. It is matter for congratulation that immigration in itself is no longer so strenuously objected to as was the case when its operation and results were less familiar than they now are. It is sufficiently established that there are certain kinds of work in which none save the African can successfully compete with the native labourer; and at all events, that there is no room to fear his being driven from the field of labour, or of his earnings being unfairly reduced by the effect of competition.

14. Much of what has been said applies in a degree to the immigrant labourer; but of course there are some features of their position peculiar to themselves. In the first place, the large majority are heathens, imported under a temporary arrangement, and they work under the operation of a restrictive law.

15. As in the case of the native peasantry, so also in that of the immigrant labourers, there is a general concurrence of opinion, except in the cases of Messrs. Carbery and Humphrys. The former denounces the Immigration Ordinance as objectionable alike in policy, in principle, and in its details; but here also I agree with those who hold the opposite view; that is, so long as a restrictive law is rendered necessary by the force of circumstances, I am not aware that a better measure than Ordinance 7 of 1854 can be devised: the desirableness of having a restrictive law applicable to the labour of a particular class alone is matter for separate consideration.

16. The general tenor of the magistrates' reports does not, I am happy to say, bear out the impression I had received of there being an increase in the proportion of convictions for breaches of contract. But it seems to be undeniable that many managers of estates submit to a good deal of the caprice and self-will of their immigrants from a well-founded apprehension that if they rigorously enforce the law they will infallibly lose the labour of the people altogether on the first opportunity they have of changing their employer, for it is evident that the manager who acquires the reputation of never carrying his coolies before the magistrate will always command a preference. The inference is, that the law in many instances thus becomes inoperative, and its chief advantage, excepting that it secures the residence of a certain number of labourers upon an estate, would seem to be, that it gives the immigrant a legal claim to fair treatment, sufficient support in sickness, and other benefits to which the unindentured labourer is not entitled at the hands of his employer.

17. Mr. Carbery indeed argues that the indentured immigrant is at a disadvantage as compared with his unrestricted brother; but this is taking into consideration only one side of the question, which must be regarded with reference to the origin of the necessity for importing labour at all. The unindentured labourer can choose his own employment and his own time for working. The successful cultivation of a sugar estate depends mainly upon the power of applying labour at the moment it is required and without reference to the kind of work which pays best. Indentured labourers are on this account, and because of the deficient supply, indispensable; and they are provided with various advantages, besides being brought to the colony free of expense to themselves, which amply compensate for the drawback of not being able to reject the less profitable kinds of labour. The immigrant labourers, as a body, are not equal to the native in point of physical endurance, and the first year of residence is usually rather a period of acclimatisation than of useful toil; hence it may happen that the earnings of the former class will not keep pace with those of the latter in a given term. But the pay per task should be the same according to law, and if the magistrates

magistrates had reason to believe that this was not the case in any particular instance it would be, of course, their duty to put the law in force.

18. That there were, at the outset, many counterbalancing circumstances to the success of immigration needs not be questioned; but in all essential respects the position of the immigrant is much ameliorated, nor am I aware that in regard to their physical wants much remains to be done; it is otherwise, doubtless, with regard to their religious and moral requirements, which are insufficiently provided for, owing to the difficulty experienced in procuring the services of teachers acquainted with their languages, and moreover the prospect of the return of the Indian immigrants to their native country and heathen associations operates as a considerable obstacle to their improvement.

19. In the six years ending with 1845 the exports of sugar are returned at an average of 37,583 hogsheads; while in the same period, ending with 1855, the average is 48,710; and without at all assuming a general defection from estates' labour on the part of the native peasantry, it cannot reasonably be doubted that the increase is largely owing to the application of imported labour: in the first mentioned period this amounted in round numbers to 16,000; while in the last mentioned it rose to 20,000, irrespective of upwards of 25,000 received in the four years between the two periods named.

20. Upon the whole, the conclusion which presents itself seems to be that the immigration of races physically suited to agricultural labour in this climate is desirable on every account; that if conducted with due regard to the equitable provision of means, to the comfortable conveyance of the people, and their wellbeing when here, it cannot but be productive of benefit to the community at large, native as well as foreign; that a discontinuance of it would, to say the least, limit and arrest the development of the productive powers of the colony, and, therefore, that its maintenance and encouragement, consistently with the conditions just indicated, may be unhesitatingly recommended to the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

The Right Honourable
the Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 7, in No. 39.

Encl. 7, in No. 39.

Sir, 20 August 1858.

I AM directed by the Governor to acquaint you that he has had under his consideration the reports made by you in reply to the circulars issued towards the close of last year, relative to Creole and immigrant labour, and also your observations upon the Red-letter Returns for the last half of 1857.

His Excellency is anxious, in a matter of so much importance, to guard himself against misconception in regard to the matters of fact, and he therefore wishes to know whether, in your judgment, he rightly assumes the following facts to be established by your several communications.

1. That with an immigrant population of 2,560 only 93 complaints were laid before you for failure to work during the last six months of 1857?

2. That by law every indentured Indian immigrant is bound to perform five of the tasks of a negro labourer in a week?

3. That in the first ten months of 1857, 120 coolies averaged 139 tasks; and that in 1855 all the coolies on 39 estates averaged 139 tasks in the year?

4. That a Negro labourer can perform this task in four hours?

I am to request distinct replies upon each of these points with as little delay as possible.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker,*
Government Secretary.

E. Carbery, Esq.
Stipendiary Magistrate, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 8, in No. 39.

Encl. 8, in No. 39.

Sir, District (H), 28 August 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your communication of the 20th instant, in which you inform me that the Governor having had under consideration my reports upon creole and immigrant labour, in reply to circulars issued the close of last year, and my observations upon the Red-letter Returns for the last half of 1857, and being anxious to guard against misconception relative to matters of fact, wishes to know whether in my judgment His Excellency

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Excellency rightly assumes that four facts, numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, are established by my several communications; and I am requested to forward distinct replies upon these four points with as little delay as possible.

In obedience to these directions I shall endeavour to express myself without ambiguity, and shall proceed to answer these questions separately, in the order in which they are placed.

The subject of immigration is no doubt one of the highest importance. I observe its progress with great interest and attention, and being convinced that its extension and encouragement will be more permanently and better secured if the laws for the government and regulation are adjusted with an equal regard to the rights and duties of the employer and the immigrant, and that justice and expediency both unite in calling for amendment where it is shown that the practical working of any of these laws presses unduly on either party, I am very desirous, when called upon, of affording to the Colonial Government all the information relative to the operation of the Immigration Ordinances which my position as a special justice enables me to obtain. Such communications from a magistrate, to be useful, should unquestionably be frank and unreserved; but as the Ordinance No. 7 of 1854 was framed and introduced by the Governor, I should not, perhaps, succeed in divesting myself of a certain degree of hesitation or reserve when commenting upon it, did I not feel assured that his Excellency would not on this account wish me to deny myself that latitude of observation, which a full explanation of the subject may require.

My answers are numbered to correspond with the questions.

1. No. It is incorrectly assumed here that the immigrant population alluded to by me was 2,560. My return gives 1,890 coolies, 260 of them under 16 years, 27 Chinese, and 643 Portuguese. These last are not indentured, and therefore not subject to the Immigration Ordinance; the 27 Chinese, all that remain of the original 41, were usually in such an emaciated a condition, that they were protected from the operation of that law; the 260 children were also sheltered from its provisions, and therefore 1,630, minus such deductions as may reasonably be made for old and infirm people, must be received as the number of the immigrants among whom punishments for the non-performance of labour took place. Nor did I state that only 93 complaints "were laid before me" for failure to work during the last six months; the word I used was "adjudicated." There were 61 other complaints preferred, but the employers did not appear to prosecute, the coolies having entreated to be forgiven, and agreed to pay costs, 3*s.* 2*d.* each. This number, 93, was placed in juxtaposition with 134, the number of comlaints adjudicated in the first half of the year, and the only inference I drew from a comparison of these facts was, that the employers who had preferred fewer complaints during the last half of 1857, were probably better satisfied with the industry of the coolies during that period than they were for the previous six months; but it would lead to an entire misapprehension, if this fact relative to the small number of complaints was isolated, and quoted as proof that the quantity of weekly labour performed by the coolies was satisfactory to the employers; for it was in consequence of the clamour they raised relative to the alleged indolence of the coolies that the Lieutenant Governor called for a special report upon the subject, and it was in this report that I stated that the experience of at least 12 years refuted the assertion that they were capable of performing the legal task required by the Ordinance of 1854, and that the employers, armed as they were with such coercive power, and in such urgent want of labour, would no doubt exact its completion, did they find it possible to do so, but that convinced of the impracticability of the law, they forbore with commendable prudence to enforce it. Had the employers acted up to the Ordinance, and preferred complaints against every coolie immigrant who did not perform five tasks, each of the value of 32 cents, during every week of the half year ending December 1857, it is undeniable that few of the coolies would have escaped conviction.

It must be borne in mind that the operation of this law extends also to women and to children, who, by an Ordinance passed on the 22d of October 1857, are now all indentured on their arrival in the colony as agricultural labourers, and subjected (see Section 2) to all regulations that attach to contracts between immigrants of full age and their employers.

2. He is considered bound to perform five tasks, each of the value of 32 cents, whether or no the negro performs it, or conditions to perform it. The tasks on plantations are of two descriptions, those which are paid for by the day, and those where a certain sum is given for the performance of a stipulated daily task of field-work; in the former case the cooly would labour 10, 12, or 14 hours for 24, 32, or 40 cents; in the latter, the employer fixes not only the rate of the remuneration, but the extent of the daily task to be performed; for its value must obviously depend on the state of the field, and of this the employer constitutes himself the judge. In one case, where the field had not been weeded for three months, 68 rods of weeding and moulding were given for 32 cents, and it was proved that the performance of this would occupy from six to three or half-past three; in another, the task was 96 rods for 32 cents, both of these on the one estate; on another, the day's task was 66 rods for 24 cents. The prosecutor said it might be finished by one or two o'clock. It is only on the 21st of June last that the Earl of Carnarvon stated in the House of Lords, in answer to the Bishop of Oxford, that "In British Guiana there were about 23,000 of these coolies, who each received a dollar per day in the shape of wages.

The published returns of January 1857 certainly could not have been one of the official documents from which his Lordship stated that he derived his information.

3. I can,

3. I can only say that I made the first of these statements on the authority of an individual residing in the district, and that the second is taken from a document published by order of his Excellency the Governor in the Official Gazette, January 1857. They show, as I understand them, the average number of tasks performed by the coolies who worked, not the average as applied to all the coolies residing on these estates; in the first case quoted the number of coolies on the estate was 153.

4. This is arriving at a conclusion not warranted by anything I asserted. It was stated in the return I sent in that the task of 32 cents was performed in some cases in four hours, in others in five, and with regard to one description of work, in nine hours; it is therefore somewhat illogical to deduce it as a fact from these premises that the task can be performed in four hours, Besides which, it was shown in my report relative to creole labour, that for a day's work of never less than 12, and sometimes of 15 hours' duration, 48 cents were paid (2*s.*); in another, that for a day's work of 14 hours 40 cents were paid; and again, I observed that the time mentioned in the return had reference to the capability of a first-class labourer, and this question 4 would make it appear that my report proved that every labourer could perform a task of 32 cents value in four hours.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Government Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Edward Carbery*, S. J.

—No. 40.—

(No. 123.)

No. 40. Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. 9 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown, 9 October 1858.

Sir, (Received, 1 November 1858.)

I HAVE the honour of submitting, for your consideration, certain resolutions passed at a public meeting held in this city, and likewise a memorial founded upon them, praying that the colony may be relieved for the future from the obligation to provide return passages for Indian immigrants to be hereafter introduced, and also that it may be permitted to commute the right to such passages in the case of the immigrants now here.

The Court of Policy, through whom these documents have been forwarded, have passed a resolution supporting the latter only of the two requests, and I beg to express my concurrence in that resolution.

You are no doubt aware that Lord Stanley, while in the Colonial Department, strongly advocated such an arrangement; and that nothing but a very inconvenient stipulation, insisted on by the Indian authorities, prevented its being carried into effect.

I therefore trust that you will be prepared to give that part of the memorial your favourable consideration.

I have, &c.

(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 40.

Encl. 1, in No. 40.

To the Right Honourable Sir *Edward George Earle Lytton Bulwer-Lytton*, Baronet, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department.

THE MEMORIAL of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Colony of British *Guiana* respectfully sheweth,

THAT for many years past your memorialists have been making the most strenuous efforts, by immigration from India and elsewhere, to supply the want of agricultural labourers so seriously felt in this colony.

That the cost of immigration from India has been enormously increased, while the value of the immigrant has been greatly diminished by the obligation imposed on your memorialists of providing a free return passage to India for coolies after a short industrial residence.

That the physical and mental development which take place in the coolie during his stay in the colony, the ample and well paid field of labour which is open to him, and the extensive opportunities which are before him of bettering his condition, are sufficient arguments in favour of this being permanently the home of his adoption.

That the present system, by holding out most unusual inducements for East Indian emigrants generally to look upon this as a mere temporary place of residence, and to form all

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their plans with the ultimate object of a return to India, operates seriously against their being accompanied by their wives and families, and thus one of the most important objects of immigration, the equalisation of the sexes, which your memorialists desire to keep specially in view in all future importations of immigrants, is, if not directly prevented, very much interfered with.

That the unsettled condition of the immigrant under present arrangements, during a brief indenture, has a demoralising tendency, leading to indifference on the score of domestic comfort and present welfare, and restraining him from undertakings which would be both elevating and advantageous.

That under the existing laws relating to coolie immigration the immigrant, even after his term of indenture in this colony has expired, is not permitted to enter into arrangements with his employer for commuting the right of back passage, however willing the parties may be, or however adequate the compensation.

That a public meeting was held in Georgetown on Tuesday, the 21st September, when there were adopted the resolutions hereto attached, to which your memorialists respectfully request your attention.

And your memorialists humbly pray, that Her Majesty's Government will be graciously pleased to take the premises into consideration, to relieve them from the future necessity of providing the back passage for immigrants, except in accordance with the resolution No. 5, referring to coolies who may be disposed to return at their own expense, and to sanction such an alteration in the laws relating to immigration as will admit of a commutation of the right of back passage by coolies already in the colony, or who may hereafter arrive, having that right.

And, as in duty bound, they will ever pray.

Georgetown, Demerara,
27 September 1858.

Moved by Honourable *Robert Smith*, seconded by *Wm. Alty*, Esquire—"That this colony, owing to its great natural advantages, is eminently calculated to become the comfortable home of a numerous population, and by means of free labour, to supply to a large extent the wants of the mother country for many tropical productions."

Moved by *R. Kelly*, Esq., seconded by *E. Borman*, Esq.—"That although in accordance with the propositions of the first resolution, great and costly efforts have for many years been made to add to the population by the introduction of people, chiefly from Madeira and British India, and that with most beneficial results alike to the immigrants and the colony, it continues to be a matter of regret that these efforts have been much hampered by the obligation imposed on the colony of providing a return passage to India for coolie immigrants after a brief so-called industrial residence."

Moved by *H. S. Bascom*, Esq., seconded by *John Drysdale*, Esq.—"That the obligation of a return passage to India, while it is a grievous burthen on the advancing prosperity of the colony, is unsanctioned by any political or social necessity, and exercises a most unfavourable influence on the character and pursuits of the immigrants, creating unsettled habits, preventing the desire or provision for home comfort, and restraining them from the investment of their savings in undertakings which would be profitable and elevating to themselves and advantageous to the community."

Moved by *Thomas Porter*, Esq., seconded by *Robert Allen*, Esq.—"Considering that the coolie emigrant is landed in the colony free of expense to himself, is secured by law in the receipt of the full market rate of wages for labour, with the extra advantages of a house and medical attendance; that his rights and privileges, both during the voyage and after arrival, are carefully secured by Government inspector and magistrates, and that in no other case than his has it been considered expedient to burthen a British colony with the cost of returning an immigrant to his country, this meeting is of opinion, that the subject of a back passage should respectfully be brought under the notice of Her Majesty's Government, accompanied by a request that the obligation of the colony to provide a return passage should be given up in the case of each immigrant leaving India after the season of 1858–59."

Moved by *J. C. Preston*, Esq., seconded by *Alexander Stewart*, Esq.—"That as many of the coolie immigrants already in the colony, or who may arrive in the ensuing season of 1858–59, may be willing to commute their rights to back passages for money payments, it is considered highly expedient that the Colonial Government should be placed in a position to carry out such arrangements by obtaining the sanction thereto of Her Majesty's Government, and in the event of the Imperial Government acceding to the terms of these resolutions, this meeting is of opinion that the Colonial Government should be bound as a sufficient number of coolie immigrants who had completed their term of industrial residence, and deposited with some officer of the Government a sufficient sum to defray the expense of a passage back to India, to provide within a reasonable time the means of conveyance there at the expense of such immigrants."

Moved by *A. W. Perot*, Esq., seconded by *John Atkinson*, Esq.—"That a committee consisting of the following gentlemen, is hereby authorised to embody the foregoing resolutions in a petition to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, to obtain signatures for the

the same, and to request its transmission by his Excellency the Governor; further, that a copy of the petition be sent to his Excellency the Governor, and the Honourable the Court of Policy, with the respectful request that they, as the Legislature of the colony, will make representations to the Imperial Government on the subject: Honourable Robert Smith, James Stuart, Thomas Porter, John Jones, George Lillie, J. Trounsell Gilbert, W. K. Martin, H. S. Bascom, Esquires."

Here follow (438) Signatures.

Enclosure 2, in No. 40.

Encl. 2, in No. 40.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the Colony of British Guiana, at its Extraordinary Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, Friday, 8 October 1858.

[After Prayers.]

WAS read letter of J. M'D. Wells, Secretary to a public meeting held in this city, enclosing copy of resolutions, and also a copy of a memorial to Her Majesty's Government on subject of return passages of coolie immigrants.

F. I.

Honourable Attorney General moves the following resolution:—"That this court respectfully request that Her Majesty's Government will be pleased to sanction such an alteration in the laws relating to immigration as will admit of a commutation of the right of back passages by coolies already in the colony, or who may hereafter arrive."

Honourable *R. Smith* seconds.

Agreed to *nem con.*

(True extract.)

(signed) *W. Walker*, Secretary.

— No. 41. —

(No. 124.)

No. 41.
Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.
23 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
23 October 1858.
(Received, 20th November 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward the reports of the Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer upon the schooner "Flor de Funchal," lately arrived with immigrants from Madeira. 1. 2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 41.

Encl. 1, in No. 41.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
11 October 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the arrival this morning of the schooner "Flor de Funchal," with immigrants from Madeira, after a protracted passage of 43 days, stated to have been caused by light and baffling winds.

There had been no casualties during the voyage.

I proceeded on board, accompanied by the Health Officer, and mustering the people, found them to consist of 39 men, 43 women, 2 boys, 5 girls, 13 infants, total 102; of whom nine men had been in the colony before, leaving 93 souls, or 76½ statute adults, who appeared, so far as I was able to ascertain, to be eligible for bounty under the provisions of Ordinance No. 16 of 1857, and for those therefore I intend issuing the usual certificate.

I enclose the Health Officer's report and certificate as to the quantity and quality of the provisions shipped at Madeira for the use of the passengers.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Government Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *D. M. Gallagher*,
Acting Sub-Immigration Agent.

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Encl. 2, in No. 41.

Enclosure 2, in No. 41.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara,
11 October 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Schooner "Flor do Funchal," which arrived here on the 11th instant, 43 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, José Luiz Pereira.
Surgeon's name, Manoel Figaro Xaves.
Quarantine, none recommended.

Number of crew - - - - - - 9
Registered tonnage - - - - - 155
Passengers' deck, 83 ft. by 22 ft.; 11½ ft. high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	TOTAL.
Embarked on the 28th August 1858 - - - -	39	43	2	5	6	7	102
Died on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Born on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrived in port - - -	39	43	2	5	6	7	102
For hospital - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
For immediate distribution -	39	43	2	5	6	7	102

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked - 102
Total number sick, as per general abstract
Total number of deaths - - - -
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked
Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness -
Daily average of people sick , per-centage thereof - - - - - -
Highest number of sick in any one day -
Lowest number ditto - - ditto - -

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

People arrive in good health and condition. One man has undergone amputation of left foot at some former period. No sickness during the voyage. Provisions and water very good. Vessel clean, and comfortably fitted up for passengers.

John M. Johnstone, Health Officer.

P.S.—Vessel boarded by Portuguese Consul prior to visit of Immigration Agent General or myself.—*J. M. J.*

— No. 42. —

No. 42. Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. 4 November 1858.

(No. 127.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
4 November 1858.

Sir,

(Received, 2 December 1858.)

1. 2. I HAVE the honour to forward the reports of the Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer upon the "Maria Adelaide" and the "Clio," lately arrived with immigrants from Madeira.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Encl. 1, in No. 42.

Enclosure 1, in No. 42.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
Thursday, 28 October 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the barque "Maria Adelaide" arrived here on Friday, the 22d instant, with Portuguese emigrants from Madeira, after a passage of 36 days. They were a very fine set of young people, and all in good health, except one woman, recovering from illness, consequent on the birth of a child, born dead at sea.

2. There

2. There were on board the "Maria Adelaide" 63 men, 73 women, 32 boys, 16 girls, and 21 infants, within the provisions of the Ordinance No. 10, 1857, sec. 1, and equal to 160 statutable adults, for the passage of whom there is due by the colony 5,600 dollars.

3. Besides these immigrants there were four men, as set forth in the ship's list, who had been in the colony of British Guiana before, and one man and one woman who paid their own passage; but there were six men and four women who attempted to pass as new immigrants, and were detected by Mr. Louis Martins, directed by his Excellency the Governor to be employed by me for the purpose of preventing, as much as possible, these fraudulent attempts; and for which service it was agreed upon between Mr. Louis Martins and myself, with the sanction of his Excellency, he should receive 10 dollars for every person he detected in this fraudulent attempt, and to whom consequently the sum of 100 dollars is now due.

4. I have also the honour to inform you that the brig schooner "Clio" arrived here on Tuesday, the 26th instant, with Portuguese immigrants from Madeira, after a passage of 26 days. They were also a very fine set of young people, and all in good health.

5. There were on board the "Clio" 33 men, 34 women, 8 boys, 5 girls, and 6 infants, within the provisions of Ordinance No. 10, 1857, sec. 1, and equal to 73½ statutable adults, for the passage of whom there is due by the colony 2,572 dollars 50 cents.

6. Besides these immigrants, there were four men, as set forth in the ship's list, who had been before in the colony of British Guiana; but there were four men and three women who attempted to pass as new immigrants, and who were detected by Mr. Louis Martins, to whom consequently a further sum of 70 dollars is now due for this service.

7. I have also the honour to state that I have signed certificates for the passage of these immigrants in these vessels for the respective sums of 5,600 dollars and 2,572 dollars and 50 cents, together amounting to the sum of 8,172 dollars and 50 cents.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James Crosby*,
Immigration Agent General.

The Hon. William Walker,
Government Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No 42.

Encl. 2, in No. 42.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara,
26 October 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Barque "Maria Adelaide," which arrived here on the 23d inst., 36 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, J. F. Valença.

Surgeon's name, Pedro Nicolao da Camara.

Quarantine, none.

Number of crew - - - - - 13
Registered tonnage - - - - 207
Passengers' deck, 87 ft. by 18 ft. 2 in.; 6 ft. high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 15th Sept. 1858 - - - -	74	78	32	16	11	10	221
Died on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Born on the voyage - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrived in port - - -	74	78	32	16	11	10	221
For hospital - - - -	- -	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1
For immediate distribution -	74	77	32	16	11	10	220

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GENERAL ABSTRACT of Surgeon's Journal.

Taken on Board.	Sick.	Since Sick.	Total Sick.	Cured.	Dead.	Remaining.	Chief Diseases.
Men - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Woman - - -	–	–	1	–	–	1	Case of recent parturition.
Boys - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Girls - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Infants - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
TOTAL - - -	–	–	1	–	–	1	

BIRTH LIST.

Mother's Name.	Sex of Child.	Date of Birth.	Result.
Rosa de Jésus - - -	male - -	19th inst. - -	- - Child still-born; mother weak, and going to hospital.

HOSPITAL LIST.

Name.	Age.		Disease.	No. of Days Sick.	General Treatment.
	M.	F.			
Rosa de Jesus - -	–	26	Parturition - -	4	Anodynes.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked -	221	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	–
Total number sick, as per General Abstract	1	Daily average of people sick, . per-centage thereof - - - - - -	–
Total number of deaths - - - - -	–	Highest number sick in any one day - -	1
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	–	Lowest number ditto - ditto - - - -	–

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

No sickness during the voyage. Provisions and water very good. Vessel clean, and comfortably fitted up.

John M. Johnstone, Health Officer.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara,
27 October 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Brig Schooner "Clio," which arrived here on the 26th inst., 26 days from *Madeira*, having touched nowhere.

Master's name, Domingo dos Santos.	Number of crew - - - - - - 10
Surgeon's name, João de Jacinto Ramos.	Registered tonnage - - - - 128
Quarantine, none.	Passengers' deck, 66 ft. by 24 ft.; 7 ft. 6 in. high.

NUMERAL

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 29th Sept. 1858	41	37	8	5	3	3	97
Died on the voyage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Born on the voyage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrived in port	41	37	8	5	3	3	97
For hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
For immediate distribution	41	37	8	5	3	3	97

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

No sickness during the voyage. People arrive in good health and condition. Provisions and water very good. Vessel clean, and comfortably fitted up for passengers.

John M. Johnstone, Health Officer.

— No. 43. —

No. 43.
Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.
24 Nov. 1858.

(No. 131.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
24 November 1858.
(Received, 16 December 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 61* of the 27th ultimo, and to state that I have this day remitted 5,000 *l.* to the Emigration Commissioners.

* P. 187.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

— No. 44. —

No. 44.
Governor Wodehouse to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.
21 Dec. 1858.

(No. 135.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Wodehouse* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.

Government House, Georgetown,
21 December 1858.
(Received, 20 January 1859.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward the reports of the Immigration Agent-General and the Health Officer on the barque "Sylph," lately arrived with immigrants from Madeira.

1.
2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 44.

* Encl. 1, in No. 44.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
Friday, 10 December 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, the arrival yesterday morning of the barque "Sylph," with immigrants from Madeira.

2. The "Sylph" had sailed from Funchal on the 7th November, and after a week of very severe weather, the wind blowing a gale most of that time, had put in at Santa Cruz, Teneriffe, on the 15th November, where she remained two days, and took in an additional supply of fresh water. She sailed from that port on the 17th November, from which date until her arrival here the weather continued favourable.

3. One death had occurred on board, that of a passenger suffering from paralysis; and one male infant was born on board during the voyage, who with his mother has been sent to the Colonial Hospital.

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4. Assisted by the Health Officer of the port, I have examined the immigrants and other passengers, and find them to consist of the following, namely:—80 men, 58 women, 13 boys, 9 girls, and 19 infants, of whom five men pay their own passage, leaving 75 men, 58 women, 13 boys, 9 girls, and 19 infants, who claim bounty as immigrants. Of those, however, 15 men, 8 women, and 1 girl, have been recognised by Mr. Louis Martins as formerly inhabitants of this colony, and have personally acknowledged the fact; and the numbers actually entitled to bounty, therefore, under the provisions of the Ordnance No. 10, anno 1857, sec. 1, are, 60 men, 50 women, 13 boys, 8 girls, and 19 infants, equal to 150 souls, or 120½ statute adults, for whom I consequently intend issuing the usual certificate.

5. I have included in these numbers one man, one woman, one boy, and one girl, who had been in the colony before, but who were compelled to visit Madeira on account of illness, and now return with restored health. They are evidently of the labouring class, said to be unable to pay for their passage hither, and therefore seem to me to come within the spirit, if not within the letter, of the law.

6. At the time of my visit to the "Sylph," yesterday, I found some 10 or 15 people on board, who had been permitted to board previous to the Health Officer and myself; indeed, the communication with the shore seemed perfectly open. The captain had previously gone ashore, and did not return during the time I remained on board.

7. I enclose the Health Officer's report.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Dennis M. Gallagher,*
Acting Sub Immigration Agent.

The Honourable William Walker,
Government Secretary, British Guiana.

Encl. 2, in No. 44.

Enclosure 2, in No. 44.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara,
10 December 1858.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Barque "Sylph," which arrived here on the 9th instant, 30 days from *Madeira*, having touched at *Santa Cruz* (*Teneriffe*) on the 15th November for Two Days.

Master's name, James M'Nab.
Surgeon's name, Hy. Crawford Rodriguez.
Quarantine, none recommended.

Number of crew - - - - - 14
Registered tonnage - - - - - 210
Passengers' deck, 66 feet by 23 feet; 6 feet 2 in. high.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		TOTAL.
					M.	F.	
Embarked on the 7th November 1858 - - -	81	58	13	9	4	15	180
Died on the voyage - -	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1
Born on the voyage - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	1
Arrived in port - - -	80	58	13	9	5	15	180
For hospital - - -	- -	1	- -	- -	1	- -	2
For immediate distribution -	80	57	13	9	4	15	178

GENERAL ABSTRACT of Surgeon's Journal.

Taken on Board.	Sick.	Sick since.	Total Sick.	Cured.	Dead.	Remaining.	Chief Diseases.
Man - - -	–	–	1	–	1	- -	One case of paralysis and one case of parturition.
Woman - - -	–	–	1	–	–	1	
Boys - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Girls - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Infants - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	
TOTAL - - -	–	–	2	–	1	1	

DEATH

DEATH LIST.

Name.	Age.		Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	Date of Death.
	M.	F.			
Alex. Martins Ferreira	27	–	Paralysis and mania -	4	12 November 1858.

BIRTH LIST.

Mother's Name.	Sex of Child.	Date of Birth.	Result.
Vinçençia da Silva - -	Male - -	3 December 1858	Both doing well.

HOSPITAL LIST.

Name.	Age.		Disease.	Number of Days Sick.	General Treatment..
	M.	F.			
Vinçençia da Silva -	–	21	Parturition - -	6	Oil and Fomentations.

SUMMARY.

Gross number of emigrants embarked	180	Per-centage of deaths to cases of sickness	·50
Total number sick, as per general abstract	2	Daily average of people sick ; per-centage thereof	–
Total number of deaths	1	Highest number sick in any one day	–
Per-centage of deaths to number embarked	0·55	Lowest number ditto - ditto	–

GENERAL REMAKKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessels, &c. &c.

Surgeon hands over no journal. People arrive in good health and condition. Provisions and water very good. Vessel comfortably fitted up with separate berths, laying across instead of the usual method fore and aft.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone*, Health Officer.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

No. 1. The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor Walker. 31 August 1857.

(No. 312.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 31 August 1857.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information and guidance the copy of a letter from the India Board, with the copy of one from the Chairman of the Emigration Commission, relative to the remittance to India of the property of coolie labourers who may die in the West Indies, and of the earnings which they may wish to send to their friends in India.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure 1. India Board, 13 July 1857. Enclosure 2. Emigration Board, 24 July 1857.

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Sir, India Board, 13 July 1857.

WITH reference to your letter of the 27th ultimo, I am directed by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India to enclose to you a copy of a letter from Sir James Melvill, containing the opinion of the Court of Directors of the East India Company as to the course that should be adopted in regard to tha remittance to India of the assets of the estates of deceased coolies, and also of the savings which the Indian labourers may wish to send to their friends in India.

I am, &c.
(signed) *George Clerk.*

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure. 9 July 1857.

Sir, East India House, 9 July 1857.

I HAVE received and laid before the Court of Directors Sir George Clerk's letter, dated 1st instant, forwarding a communication from the Under Secretary at the Colonial Office, with its enclosure from the Governor of British Guiana, relating to the emigration arrangements of that colony. In reply I am commanded to state that the only question which seems to the Court to call for any remark from them, is that connected with the remittance to India of the assets of estates of deceased coolies, and of earnings which labourers may wish to send to their friends in India. The Court desire me to suggest that the same channel which is now open for the safe conveyance of the savings of coolies returning to India may be made available for these purposes also; and on receiving from the Colonial Office any sums on these accounts into their treasury, accompanied with a list of the persons to whom they are to be paid, they will be prepared to issue the necessary instructions to the Governments of India

I have, &c.
(signed) *James C. Melvill.*

The Secretary, India Board.

Encl. 2, in No. 1.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Sir, Emigration Office, 24 July 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of 16th instant, accompanied by letters from the Board of Control and the East India Company, on the subject of the remittance to India of the property of cooly labourers who may die in the West Indies, and of the earnings which labourers may wish to send to their friends in India.

2. The East India Company, in answer to the inquiry on this subject, which had been addressed to them, suggest, that the same channel through which the savings of return coolies are remitted to India, should be used for the remittance of the property of those who die, and of any sums which the resident coolies may desire to transmit to their friends in India; in other words, that the money should be paid into the Commissariat chest, to be remitted through

through the Treasury to the East India Company, who would give directions for the payment of it in India to the persons entitled to receive it.

3. I would submit that this suggestion should be communicated to the Governors of the several West India Colonies which import coolies; but it would be necessary, as regards the property of deceased coolies, to point out to the local authorities, that in transmitting it much greater particularity would be required than in respect to the earnings of the coolies. It would be necessary to state with accuracy the name and description of the deceased person, with all such particulars in regard to the date of his emigration, the ship in which he left India, the persons by whom he was accompanied, &c., as would enable the authorities in India to identify him, and to ascertain the persons entitled to receive the property which he has left.

I have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*

— No. 2. —

(No. 325.)

No. 2. The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker. 11 Sept. 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 11 September 1857.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th ult., No. 4,* respecting the arrival of the barque "Sylph" from Madeira, with 43 immigrants on board; and I have to convey you my approval of your having, on the recommendation of the Court of Policy, sanctioned the payment of bounty, in respect of these people, from the public funds.

(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

* Page 1.

— No. 3. —

(No. 340.)

No. 3. The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., to Lieut.-Governor Walker. 17 October 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 October 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 14* of the 7th of September, representing the wish of the Court of Policy that, in the investigation which is to be made into the causes of the recent mortality on board coolie ships, inquiry should be directed to the changes in the dietary of the immigrants, and to the apparently useless inspection by the surgeon superintendents.

I transmit to you the copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, from which you will be reminded that attention has been specifically directed to these two points.

* P. 3.

Enclosure. 12 October 1857.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 3.

Encl. in No. 3.

Sir, Emigration Office, 12 October 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of the 8th instant, enclosing copy of a Despatch from the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana, in which he states that the Court of Policy are satisfied with the mode in which it is proposed to investigate the causes of the recent mortality on board the coolie ships of 1856-57; but that they desire that inquiry should be particularly directed, first, to the recent changes in the dietary of the immigrants; and, secondly, to the "apparently useless inspection" effected by the surgeon superintendents.

2. It will be seen, however, from the following extract of Mr. Murdoch's report of 30th June, which, I believe, was forwarded to the Government of Bengal, that attention was specifically directed to these two points:—

"I would further suggest that this Committee should likewise inquire into the nature of the medical examination to which the coolies are subjected by the surgeon of the ship before he gives his certificate of their fitness to embark, and that they should also consider the present mode of fitting the ships, and the alterations which have recently been made in the dietary, and the consequences of the usual detention of the ship in the Hooghly for some days after the people are on board."

I have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

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— No. 4. —

(No. 352.)

No. 4.
The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
14 Nov. 1857.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 November 1857.

I TRANSMIT for your information the copy of a letter from Mr. Caird, reporting that in consequence of the disturbed state of the Upper Provinces of India, he had been unable to obtain emigrants for the West Indies; and that he had therefore been unable to employ the "Mary Harrison," which was chartered by the Emigration Board.

Enclosure. 21 Sept. 1857.

As the ship was after her time, no penalty will be payable.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 21 September 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, that, consequent upon the disturbed state of the Upper Provinces, I have not been able to procure up to this date any coolies for the West Indies; and as the ship "Mary Harrison" was over her time in reaching this port, and the "Wellesley" being daily expected, I have under the circumstances declined to employ the former vessel, as intended by the charterparty entered into in England.

I hope by the middle or latter end of next month to receive regular supplies of people, when I shall take up a ship here in lieu of the "Mary Harrison."

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird,*
Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq. &c. &c.

Dear Sir, Calcutta, 16 September 1857.

WE beg to announce the arrival at the Sand Heads yesterday of the ship "Mary Harrison," Baxter, from London, which vessel, you are doubtless aware, has been chartered by the Emigration Commissioners in London to proceed with emigrants to the West Indies.

We believe that by the charterparty the owner engaged that the ships hould arrive here on or before the 14th instant; but having exceeded that date by a few hours only, we trust the delay will not be of any importance to you.

Understanding that there is difficulty in procuring emigrants, and that consequently it would not be convenient for you to despatch the "Mary Harrison" on the 14th proximo in terms of the charterparty, we beg to intimate that it will afford us pleasure to make the date of her departure suit your convenience. At same time we are prepared to have her available according to the terms of charterparty, if desired by you.

We have, &c.
(signed) *Lyall, Rennie & Co.*

T. Caird, Esq.

Sir, Emigration Agent's Office, 16 September 1857.

IN reply to your letter of this day's date, inquiring whether I intend to take the ship "Mary Harrison" for the conveyance of coolies to British Guiana, under charter-party entered into in London with that object, I beg to say, that the "Mary Harrison" being over her time, I must decline to employ her as intended by the said charter-party.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird,*
Emigration Agent.

Messrs. Lyall, Rennie & Co.

— No. 5. —

(No. 353.)

No. 5.
The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
14 Nov. 1857.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 November 1857.

I DULY received Governor Wodehouse's Despatch, No. 91 of the 9th of July, in which he suggested a plan for the remittance to India of the savings of coolies.

The Despatch having been communicated by Governor Wodehouse to the Governor of Trinidad, in order to ascertain whether the proposed course would be

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be acceptable to the Government of that colony, I forwarded the Despatch which Governor Keate addressed to me upon the subject, after receiving Governor Wodehouse's communication to the Emigration Commissioners, with directions that they should consider both projects together, as it was very desirable that the mode of proceeding should be uniform in the two colonies.

I transmit for your information a copy of the Commissioners' Report, and I have to instruct you to adopt the course suggested in it as regards the remittance of the savings of coolies in British Guiana.

6 November 1857.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 5.

Encl. in No. 5.

Sir, Emigration Office, 6 November 1857.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 11th September, enclosing a copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad respecting the mode of transmitting the savings of the coolies to India. In this letter you desire us to communicate with Governor Wodehouse on the subject, and we have delayed our answer till we had an opportunity of doing so.

2. It seems that the coolies entertain the idea that they can make a profit by collecting silver dollars and conveying them to India when they return thither. In the opinion of the Court of Directors, the Home Government, and the authorities in British Guiana, it is very inexpedient that they should make the voyage with this money on their persons, and they have been accordingly persuaded, and, indeed, in British Guiana, almost required, to deposit their savings with the Government, receiving (in effect) an order on the Indian authorities for an equivalent amount. But on these occasions it would seem, both from the anticipations of the Immigration Agent in British Guiana, and from the report of Mr. Caird, respecting what took place on the arrival of the "Arabia" from Trinidad, that the coolies expected not only to have the advantage of this safe mode of transmission, but also to receive the profit which they would have made had they undergone the trouble and risk of conveying their specie on their persons.

f. 128.

3. This expectation is no doubt unreasonable, and Governor Keate points out that it is so. He would therefore propose that they should be allowed to carry silver with them, if they like; but that the Government should receive any deposits which they may choose to make (allowing 4 *s.* 2 *d.*, and no more, for every silver dollar deposited), and should give them in return a credit on India for the sterling amount of those deposits, to be paid in rupees at the current rate of exchange.

4. It appears to us, however, that if is very desirable not entirely to leave this deposit to the coolies' judgment or humour, but to induce them, by a certain influence and pressure, to entrust their money to Government. But if this is done, it will be difficult to escape the necessity of making good to them the profit of which they will be, or will suppose themselves to have been deprived. The pecuniary loss to the colony will be very trifling in comparison with the advantage of sending the coolies back to their friends in good humour.

5. Assuming that this loss is to be made good, it only remains to settle the exact mode of doing it.

6. In a Despatch transmitted to us on the 11th of August, but which has remained unanswered till it could be considered in connexion with that now received from Trinidad, Mr. Wodehouse proposes that the Indian shall be allowed to deposit with the Government his savings calculated in dollars of account, and shall be credited with the nominal amount deposited, plus the amount of premium obtainable in British Guiana, on so much of the sum as was paid in actual silver dollars. The coolie is then to receive in India an equivalent in rupees for the total number of dollars (of account) with which he is credited.

7. The same amount is to be paid to the East India Company through the Commissariat chest at the rate of 4 *s.* 2 *d.* a dollar. And if the rupees paid in India to the coolie exceed the value of the sterling sum paid to the East India Company, the difference is to be adjusted by another payment through the Commissariat.

8. Governor Keate considers that this plan in its application to Trinidad would require two modifications. First, accounts in Trinidad not being kept in dollars, the introduction of that word, except as signifying an actual silver coin, would be productive of confusion. This is a mere matter of account, and Mr. Labouchere's instructions may be easily so framed as to leave each colony at liberty to take its own course in this matter. Next, he suggests that, instead of crediting the coolie who deposits a silver dollar with the Colonial value of that dollar, the Government should direct the officer of the Indian Government to pay him at Calcutta or Madras the sum which would be then and there obtainable in exchange for that dollar. And this it is probable is more exactly what the coolie would expect; and, therefore, if equally convenient, would be preferable.

9. On the whole, therefore, we should be inclined to propose that instructions should be issued of the following kind.

10. The Colonial Government should use its best endeavours to induce the coolies on leaving the colony to entrust their savings to the Emigration Agent, who should forthwith pay into the Commissariat chest the amount received from them, calculated in British Guiana at 4 *s.* 2 *d.* the dollar.

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11. In the detailed statements of these receipts, the sums received in silver dollars should be kept separate from those received in any other form of currency.

12. The coolie should receive in India for his silver dollars their market value at the time of his arrival, and for his miscellaneous deposits a number of rupees equivalent to the amount of these deposits at the current rate of exchange.

13. In Trinidad this latter amount would have been stated to the coolie in sterling; but in British Guiana in dollars. On the latter, therefore, Mr. Wodehouse anticipates that there might be occasional differences between the payments to the coolies in India and those to the Commissariat chest in British Guiana.

14. The extra payment which it would be necessary to make on account of the silver dollars, and, perhaps, the differences arising from the intervention of dollars of account in British Guiana, would be subsequently settled by a payment into the Commissariat chest.

15. The nature of the whole transaction, so far as it affects the coolies, should, of course, be clearly explained to them, and the requisite instructions given to the officers charged with paying the money in India.

16. To this course Mr. Wodehouse sees no objection.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

T. F. Elliot, Esq.
&c. &c.

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
1 December 1857.

(No. 358.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 December 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 31* of the 10th of October, respecting a proposed immigration from the Virgin Islands.

* P. 11.

You state that a question has arisen whether contracts of service entered into in the Virgin Island scould be enforced in British Guiana, and that an Ordinance is to be passed to remove all doubts on the point.

I do not think that these doubts are well founded; but the course proposed to be taken does not appear to be open to any objection which would justify an opposition to it.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 7. —

No. 7.
The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P., to Lieut. Governor Walker.
15 December 1857.

(No. 362.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 December 1857.

I TRANSMIT for your information the copy of a correspondence between the Emigration Commissioners, the Treasury, and this Department, relating to a memorial which they had received from certain proprietors in British Guiana, requesting that 1,750 coolies might be sent to the colony, in addition to those already ordered, on their pledging themselves to pay for the expense incurred.

Enclosure 1.
" 2.
" 3
"
" 5.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. 1, in No. 7.

Enclosure 1, in No. 7.

Sir, Emigration Office, 17 November 1857.

WE enclose for Mr. Labouchere's consideration the copy of a memorial which we have received from various proprietors of estates in British Guiana, requesting that Mr. Caird may be instructed to send out 1,750 coolies to British Guiana in addition to the 3,000 already ordered, and pledging themselves to pay, in certain proportions, for the extra coolies thus introduced.

2. This application is based on the assumption that large numbers of emigrants and a large amount of shipping will be procurable this season, in which case the memorialists naturally desire that the opportunity of an increased emigration may not be lost.

3. Considering that upwards of 6,000 coolies are already ordered for the West Indies, and that Mr. Caird did not expect that he would be able to despatch any till the middle of October, we should fear that there was little chance that this addition to the emigration could be effected. But, in case satisfactory arrangements could be made for securing payment of the money, there would, we apprehend, be no reason for refusing to instruct Mr.

Caird

Caird to send the people, if possible. As this step must be taken without communication with the Colonial Government, the pecuniary liability will rest with this Board and it is for the consideration of the Lords of the Treasury whether, under present circumstances, the guarantee of all or any of these gentlemen will be sufficient to warrant the contracting such a liability.

4. If the principle should be entertained, it would, we apprehend, be necessary that the applicants should enter into a joint and several obligation, in such form as the Lords of the Treasury might think fit; first, to deposit with this Board, when required, a sum equal to the estimated freight of any ship which might be notified to us by Mr. Caird as actually chartered, and subsequently to pay us such a further sum as would be necessary for all incidental expenses. It should be clearly understood that this amount is to include the expenses of the women and children by whom the coolies are to be accompanied, and it should be ascertained whether the applicants are prepared to pay for the coolies whatever sum may be expended, or whether they intend (as would seem possible by the terms of their memorial) to limit the freight to 11 *l.* 10 *s.* per adult, or any other sum.

5. Supposing these points arranged, it would be necessary to direct Mr. Caird to send out, if possible, 4,750 coolies instead of 3,000 to British Guiana, such emigrants being despatched *pari passu* with those shipped for Trinidad, till the number sanctioned for the latter colony should be made up; and the Acting Governor of British Guiana should be instructed to allot the immigrants who may arrive, in addition to the 3,000 already ordered, to the present applicants in such proportion, as far as possible, as may be agreed upon. For this purpose, however, it would be necessary to pass a short law extending to the immigrants all the provisions of the general immigration law, which applies in its present form only to Government immigrants.

6. The applicants are desirous that the requisite instructions should be sent out to India by the next mail, which leaves on the 26th, and it is evident that, even if this is accomplished, two-thirds of the season will have been exhausted before Mr. Caird can receive his directions. It would be very convenient, therefore, that the question should be decided as speedily as possible.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure 1, in No 7.

Sir, London, October 1857.

WE, the undersigned proprietors and representatives of estates in British Guiana, beg to submit for the consideration of the Honourable the Emigration Commissioners, that application has been made by the Governor of that colony for 3,000 Indian immigrants, for the season of 1857-8, for the payment of whose passage money provision has been duly made. It is however very possible that from the stoppage of public works and other causes large numbers of people may be thrown out of employment in India, and may be willing to emigrate to the British West Indies; and as the demand for labour in that quarter is now very severe, and we should be glad to avail ourselves of any opportunity for obtaining it, we trust that the Right Honourable the Colonial Secretary will be good enough by the next mail to order the emigration agents at Calcutta and Madras, to send on, if they can procure them, in addition to the 3,000 already ordered, a further number of 1750 coolies, for whose passage we undertake to pay, in the proportion stated opposite to our respective names, upon the understanding that they will be indented to our estates; and further, we agree to deposit with a bank in London, the sum of 30 *s.* a head for each coolie, sent to defray the expenses of shipping, so soon as this scheme is sanctioned. Such sum is independent of the passage money, which we expect will not exceed 10 *l.* per head.

(signed)

Sandbach, Tinne & Co.	150	*John Kingston*, for *G. Follarton*	100
Murrays, Loxdale & Co.	200	*Jonathan Hopkinson*	150
George Booker & Co.	100	*F. Shanck*	100
John Moss	50	*Cavan Bros. & Co.*	500
Josias Booker & Co.	50	*Peter M. Watson*	100
Matthew Steele	100	*Robert Gardner*, for *John Stuart*	100
John Kingston	50		

Stephen Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 7.

Encl. 2, in No. 7.

Sir, Downing-street, 21 November 1857.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Labouchere to transmit to you the copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, enclosing a memorial from certain proprietors of estates in British Guiana, in which they request that Mr. Caird may be instructed to send out 1,750 coolies, in addition to the 3,000 already ordered, and pledge themselves to pay in certain proportions for the extra coolies thus introduced.

Before any steps can be taken by the Emigration Commissioners for a compliance with the wish of the memorialists, it is necessary that the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury should state whether the guarantee of these gentlemen will be sufficient to warrant the Emigration Commissioners

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Commissioners in contracting the pecuniary liability which they would incur; and I am to request that you will move their Lordship sto favour Mr. Labouchere with an early signification of their views upon the subject.

I am, &c.

Sir Charles Trevelyan, K.C.B. (signed) *H. Merivale.*

Encl. 3, in No. 7.

Enclosure 3, in No. 7.

Sir, Treasury Chambers, 24 November 1857.

With reference to your letter of 21st instant, transmitting copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, enclosing a memorial from certain proprietors of estates in British Guiana, in which they request that Mr. Caird may be instructed to send out 1,750 coolies, in addition to the 3,000 already ordered, and pledge themselves to pay in certain proportions for the extra coolies thus introduced, I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to acquaint you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Labouchere, that their Lordships do not consider that the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners could properly be called upon to take any steps which would render them liable for any portion of the expense to be incurred in promoting an increased amount of emigration from India to British Guiana, which appears to be proposed without the sanction of the Governor or the Legislative authorities of the colony.

I am, &c.

H. Merivale, Esq. &c. &c. (signed) *James Wilson.*

Encl. 4, in No. 7.

Enclosure 4, in No. 7.

Gentlemen, Downing-street, 15 December 1857.

With reference to your letter of the 17th ultimo, enclosing a memorial from certain proprietors of estates in British Guiana, in which they request that Mr. Caird may be instructed to send to the colony 1,750 coolies, in addition to the 3,000 already ordered, and pledge themselves to pay for these extra coolies, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Labouchere to transmit to you the copy of a letter from the Treasury, from which you will observe that the Lords Commissioners are of opinion that you could not properly render yourselves liable to any portion of the expense which would be incurred by a compliance with the request of the memorialists.

This being the case, it did not appear desirable to refer to their Lordships the correspondence with Mr. Tinne, enclosed in your letter of the 26th ult.

I am, &c.

The Emigration Commissioners. (signed) *H. Merivale.*

Encl. 5, in No. 7.

Enclosure 5, in No. 7.

Sir, Emigration Office, 26 November 1857.

With reference to our letter of the 17th instant, respecting the application of certain gentlemen interested in British Guiana, for an increased number of immigrants, we have the honour to state, that in order to prevent any loss of time, in case Mr. Labouchere and the Lords of the Treasury should entertain that application favourably, we addressed a letter to the gentleman by whom it was forwarded, requesting more specific statements on certain points which the application had left indeterminate. We enclose copies of our letter and of his answer, from which it will be seen that the applicants consent to pay for the usual proportion of women and children, and for the usual extra expenses, but that they are not prepared to pay any greater freight than 10*l.* per adult. They are also prepared to become jointly and severally liable to pay the expenses, and they propose that the emigrants may be allotted among them, either *pro ratâ* or as the Governor may prescribe.

17 November, Sub-Enclosure 1.
21 November, Sub-Enclosure 2.

3. If the charterparties were framed in the usual form, it would be in the power of the Governor to pay the freight by bills upon this Board at three months sight, and this would give us ample time for recovering the money from the applicants.

4. It may, perhaps, facilitate the consideration of the subject by the Lords of the Treasury, if copies of our letter to Mr. Tinne and of his answer were communicated to their Lordships.

We have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. &c. &c. (signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.* *Frederic Rogers.*

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure 5, in No. 7.

Sir, Emigration Office, 17 November 1857.

I am directed by the Emigration Commissioners to acknowledge your letter of the 14th instant, with a memorial requesting the importation of 1,750 additional coolies into British Guiana, at the expense of yourself and the other memorialists.

The Commissioners have lost no time in transmitting the memorial to the Secretary of State, with such observations as appeared to them necessary. They have no means of conjecturing

turing the decision at which Mr. Labouchere and the Lords of the Treasury may arrive respecting it; but as it is an object to avoid delay (the emigration season ending on the 1st March), the Commissioners desire me to advert to one or two points on which it would be desirable that your views should be explicitly stated.

1. It must of course be understood that the importers of these coolies are prepared to pay, not only for the labourers introduced, but for the women and children, and even, in some cases, the infirm members of families by whom they are necessarily accompanied. These are evidently part of the unavoidable expenses of emigration.

2. The cost of collecting, clothing, and feeding the emigrants before shipment, and of the gratuities to the surgeon and officers, will probably be not far short of 2*l.* 10*s.* a head. The freight is frequently above 10*l.* or even 11*l.* It must be distinctly understood whether you wish to limit the expense of immigration, so that Mr. Caird is not to send the people at all, unless he can bring the expenses within a certain sum, or whether he is to send at all events on the best terms he can.

3. It would of course be impossible for this Board to deal with individual memorialists. It would probably, therefore, be required (if the principle of your memorial were admitted) that all the memorialists should enter into a joint and several obligation (in such form as the Treasury might think fit: (1) to pay the Commissioners, at such time as they might require it, the freight of any ship which might be taken up as estimated by them; (2) to pay at a later period so much as might be required, with the balance of the sum already paid for freight, to defray the cost of collection, and all other incidental expenses.

Lastly, the immigrants, on arrival, would be allotted among the memorialists by the Governor, on the same footing as if they had been imported by Government. It is not possible to say exactly by what rules he may find it necessary to guide himself in this respect; but it would be desirable that the memorialists should express their wishes as to their priority *inter se*.

I have, &c.
(signed) *S. Walcott*, Secretary.

John A. Tinne, Esq.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure 5, in No. 7.

Sir, Liverpool, 21 November 1857.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 17th instant, on the subject of a memorial emanating from myself and the other proprietors of estates in British Guiana, for a supply of 1,750 coolies, which we require, from Calcutta and Madras.

I observe that you have transmitted the memorial to the Secretary of State, with your observations, but that pending the decision and reply thereupon of Mr. Labouchere and the Lords of the Treasury, and in order to avoid delay, you wish to know our view upon certain points, to which I shall now devote myself.

1. The memorialists are quite prepared to receive the labourers with their families, the proportion of sexes, and of old and young people to constitute the aggregate number by each vessel, to be similar to those Mr. Caird is in the habit of shipping.

2. The cost of collecting, clothing, and feeding the emigrants before shipment, and of the gratuities to the surgeon and officers, which is stated by you to be not far short of 2*l.* 10*s.* each, the memorialists also agree to disburse, as also the passage-money from Calcutta or Madras, which they still consider ought not, under present circumstances of the abundance of shipping, to exceed, and beg to limit to 10*l.* (ten pounds) per head, payable in cash in Demerara, or in approved bill to any authorised agent.

3. The memorialists agree to be jointly and severally bound to pay the expenses attendant on the introduction of the coolies in question; and I have to request that the Commissioners will forward the draft of the proposed bond to me for inspection and signature.

4. It is understood by us that the labourers will be allotted among the memorialists *pro rata*, or on such footing as may be prescribed by the Governor of the colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John A. Tinne.*

Stephen Walcott, Esq.
Secretary.

— No. 8. —

(No. 365.)

No. 8.
The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
20 December 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 20 December 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 30* of the 10th of October, reporting the departure of the "Hamilla Mitchell" for Calcutta, with return coolies.

* P. 7.

I transmit for your information the copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, to whom I communicated a copy of your Despatch.

14 December 1857. Enclosure.

BRITISH GUIANA.

I quite concur in the opinion of the Commissioners that the colony should provide passages to India for Indian children born under the circumstances in question in British Guiana.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Sir, Emigration Office, 14 December 1857.

We have to acknowledge your letter of the 11th November, with the copy of a Despatch from the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana, reporting the departure of the "Hamilla Mitchell" for Calcutta, with 277 Indians, whose savings remitted to Calcutta, through the Governor, amounted to 6,033 *l.* 6 *s.* 7 *d.*

2. It seems that within the last 12 months 855 immigrants have left British Guiana, whose aggregate savings amounted to 15,242 *l.* 17 *s.* 9½ *d.* We see no reason to doubt that the fittings of the ship, to which the Governor refers at length, were arranged as well as circumstances would permit.

3. With respect to those points in his Despatch which suggest alterations in our charter-party, we have to offer the following remarks.

4. Salt fish is advisedly omitted from the regular dietary. A small quantity is placed on board, on the chance of its being useful in certain emergencies; but from its tendency to decay, and become unwholesome, it has been condemned as a regular article of diet, both in the African and Indian emigrations. The grounds of that condemnation will be seen in the Parliamentary Paper referred to in the margin.

P. P. 76 of 1856, pp. 275, 276, 277, 280, 289.

5. The necessity of cocoa-nut oil has, as far as we know, never been suggested before, either in the East or West Indies, during 12 years of emigration. But with reference to the known habits both of Africans and Indians, we think it very probable that the suggestion is judicious, and have amended our charterparty by requiring the shipowner to place on board 36 gallons for every 100 adults.

6. With regard to the medicines which surgeons are apt to require in addition to the authorised scale, we would point out that the charterparty requires both provisions and medicines to be shipped according to the prescribed scale, or such other not more expensive one as may be prescribed by the Government Immigration Agent. This leaves to that officer full power to require any substitution which he may judge fit. But we will so alter the charterparty as to secure, as far as possible, that questions respecting these modifications shall be settled by the surgeon and shipowner in this country.

7. Finally, the Lieutenant Governor inquires whether the colony is bound to furnish return passages to India for Indian children born in the colony.

8. On this point we would refer to a Colonial Office memorandum of 5th June 1844, which laid down the basis on which this emigration was to be conducted, and which, though in many points superseded by later arrangements, must be considered, where it remains unmodified, as being in the nature of a pledge given by the Secretary of State on the part of the colonies to the Indian Government.

9. In that memorandum (Article 12), it was distinctly agreed that "at the expiration of five years" (now enlarged to ten), "every emigrant, including all children who may have been born in the colony, will become entitled to a free passage back to India (Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners' Annual Report for 1845, Appendix, page 71).

10. We do not see, therefore, that this expense could now be thrown, without injustice, on the parents.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

— No. 9. —

(No. 368.)

No. 9.
The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
8 January 1858.

Enclosure: 24 December 1857.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 8 January 1858.

I transmit to you the copy of a letter from the Emigration Commisioners, enclosing copies of correspondence with the Emigration Agents at Calcutta and Madras, upon the subject of the proposed plan of collecting coolie immigrants, through the agency of delegates, to be sent from the West Indies to recruit for particular estates.

I concur in the remarks of the Commissioners, and you have my authority for bringing the plan into operation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 9.

Sir, Emigration Office, 24 December 1857.

Mr. Elliot's letter of the 25th August last enclosed the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of British Guiana, transmitting a proposal said to be popular in the colony, that individual planters should be allowed to send coolie delegates to India to collect emigrants or their own estates.

2. On this plan, which is actually in operation with regard to Mauritius, it appeared best, in the first instance, to consult Messrs. Caird and Franklin, and we enclose copies of the letter which we addressed to those gentlemen, and of the answers which we have received. It will be seen that they are both of opinion that the proposed plan may very much aid their operations.

3. We see therefore no reason why it should not be at once brought into operation, and we would suggest that copies of the correspondence should be transmitted to British Guiana and Trinidad with an intimation to this effect.

Sub-Enclosure 1.
Ditto 2.
Ditto 3.

4. Mr. Caird suggests, that, until the measure shall have had a fair trial, the delegates shall be sent out at the expense of the colony, and so, as we understand, collect for the Government generally, and not for individual planters. But this appears to us an unnecessary limitation of the scheme, which, though likely enough to be acceptable to Trinidad, might frustrate the scheme in British Guiana. It appears to us that in this respect each colony might be left to make its own arrangements.

5. Every recruiter should of course carry with him to India a letter from the Colonial Government to Mr. Caird or Mr. Franklin, stating whether he is to recruit for the colony generally, or for any individual planter or planters, and, if the latter, specifying the names of the intended employers, and of their estates; and also, as far as may be, the terms on which the coolie will be indentured on his arrival, which terms must be at least as favourable as those secured to ordinary Government immigrants.

6. The planter with whom he will have engaged should not be authorised to transfer his services to any other person; and it must be clearly explained to the recruiter that he must act entirely under the orders of the Emigration Agent, that he will be required to collect the prescribed per-centage of women, and that, if he proceeds to Calcutta, he will be required to collect from the neighbourhood of his own village.

7. It will probably be convenient that the recruiter's bonus on emigrants collected should be paid him by Mr. Caird, and repaid to the colony by the planter on allotment. But this and all the merely financial arrangements connected with the employment of these delegates will be best left to the Colonial Governments.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 9.

Sir, Emigration Office, 10 September 1857.

I am directed by the Emigration Commissioners to transmit to you copies of a Despatch which has been received from the Governor of British Guiana, and two letters addressed to him by Mr. O'Donoghue, a planter in that colony.

Mr. O'Donoghue is, as you will see, desirous that the system of collecting coolie immigrants through the agency of delegates sent back from the West Indies at the expense of individual planters (which system the Commissioners imagine to be working advantageously with regard to Mauritius), may be extended to the West Indies.

To this the Commissioners see no objection, and they would be anxious to adopt a measure which seems calculated to stimulate emigration, and which at any rate it will be a satisfaction to the colonists to have tried. But before recommending positively to the Secretary of State that the required permission should be given, they are anxious to learn from you whether you see any objection to the plan, and to be informed what is the exact plan pursued in this respect with regard to Mauritius, and what regulations would be necessary to secure, as far as possible, the harmonious action of the two emigrations. Of course, it will be necessary that the collectors in your Presidency should act, subject to your authority, and that it should be carefully ascertained that the emigrants collected by them have not been improperly obtained.

I have, &c.
(signed) *S. Walcott,*
Secretary.

To Messrs. Caird & Franklin.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 9.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
4 November 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 10th September last. With regard to the planters of Guiana sending recruiters to India to collect labourers for them, I beg to say that I can see no objection whatever to such an arrangement; but, on the contrary, if well-conducted men are selected for the service, it ought, in my humble opinion, to be attended with a most beneficial result.

The recruiters, however, should be told distinctly before leaving the colony that they will have to procure labourers from their own villages, together with the required per-centage of women. I would further suggest that these men should be sent back to India at the expense of the colony until the measure has had a fair trial.

2. The planters of the Mauritius have been in the habit for years past of sending up recruiters, and to their valuable services the colonists are very much indebted; and if return-men from the West Indian colonies had brought back such favourable accounts of the West Indies as the Mauritius men have been the means of circulating throughout the Provinces, I should not at the present time experience the difficulties which I now do in collecting people for the West Indies.

3. No coolies have yet been shipped for the Mauritius at the expense of the planter. An Ordinance has been passed with that object, but it has not yet come into operation; but immediately I have completed the indent for the current year I shall be prepared to ship people under the provisions of that Ordinance, a copy of which is herewith enclosed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird*,
Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 3, to Enclosure in No. 9.

Colonial Emigration Office, Madras,
14 November 1857.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter of the 10th September last, No. 375, transmitting copy of a Despatch from the late Governor of British Guiana on the subject of establishing a system of recruiting for particular estates by delegates to be sent to India by the proprietors, I have the honour to inform you, that this practice has long been in use for the Mauritius, and that nine-tenths of the emigrants who proceed to that colony are obtained by these means.

2. At first the system was attended with many difficulties. The recruiters so sent, who were only nominally under my control, and who were unscrupulous to a degree, took every unfair advantage to entice persons to emigrate; but by degrees better discipline was established, and the system now works advantageously for all parties. I see, therefore, no objection to its being extended to the West Indian colonies, certain, in fact, that it would facilitate our operations in India.

3. In Act 15 of 1842 of the Government of India, clause 18, it is provided that the emigrant shall land a free man. No legal engagement can therefore be entered into with him in this country, and the planter who deputes an Indian to recruit must risk the men refusing to serve him on arrival in the colony of the Mauritius. But in the Act legalizing emigration to the West Indies this proviso is omitted, and there is consequently less risk of disappointment.

4. The mode in which emigrants are sent to the Mauritius for particular planters is as follows:—The planter applies to the Protector of Immigrants in the colony for a certain number, entering at the same time into security to pay all attendant expenses. The application is then sent to me, and one or more recruiters generally arrive with a written introduction from the planter to me, upon which I usually grant them a pass to collect people in the country districts. On their returning with emigrants I notify to the protector in the colony the people so recruited, who are handed over to the party originally applying for them. From all I can learn the system has not answered well, as by the law the emigrant lands free to engage with whomsoever he pleases. The Act requires that he shall work out his industrial residence, but leaves him to make his own choice of a master on his landing. To obviate this inconvenience a local ordinance has been passed, which obliges any other planter than the one to whom the emigrant is so sent to pay 25 per cent. in addition to the expenses incurred on engaging him; yet still so great is the competition for labour, that the emigrants led away by the maistries or recruiters whom the planters employ frequently refuse to take service with the parties for whom they are consigned.

5. Besides this mode of obtaining emigrants for particular estates, it is common for the planters to send Indian emissaries to this country to recruit for them, trusting to their persuasive powers to induce the emigrants to serve them on arrival in the colony. It is in this manner that the greatest number of the emigrants are collected. A list is sent with each headman, showing the numbers he has collected, for each of whom he receives a gratuity.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Franklin*,
Colonial Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq. &c. &c.

— No. 10. —

No. 10.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
13 January 1858.

(No. 371.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 13 January 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a letter from the India Board, and of a report upon it from the Emigration Commissioners, respecting the mode of forwarding the savings of return coolies to India.

India Board. 3 December 1857.
Emigration Commissioners. 30 December 1857.

I have to instruct you to act in accordance with the suggestion made in the sixth paragraph of the Commissioners' report.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 10.

Encl. 1, in No. 10.
26 November 1857.
Sub-Enclosure 1.
12 June 1857.
Sub-Enclosure 2.

Sir, India Board, 3 December 1857.

I AM directed by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India to transmit to you, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of a letter from Sir James Melvill, enclosing a copy of a Despatch from the Government of India, relative to the loss sustained by certain emigrants in consequence of their savings having been remitted by bills on the Commissariat.

As the loss appears to be considerable (about 6¼ per cent.), the Board agree with the Court of Directors, in thinking that instructions should be issued to the local agents, directing them to explain to the emigrants the loss they may suffer by selecting that mode of remittance.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Henry D. Seymour.*

H. Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure 1, in No. 10.

Sir, East India House, 26 November 1857.

I AM commanded by the Court of Directors to forward to you, for the information of the Board of Commissioners, a copy of a letter from the Governor of India, dated 12th June (No. 51) 1857, with its enclosures, relating to the arrival of return emigrants from Trinidad in the ship "Arabia," and to the loss by exchange sustained by the emigrants, in consequence of their savings having been remitted by bills on the Commissariat.

2. The Court do not believe that there is any actual compulsion used in the colonies to induce the emigrants to remit their savings by bills, instead of taking the amount with them in cash, but they think it probable that the advantages of such a mode of remittance may have been set before them, in such a manner as to lead them to suppose that they had scarcely a free choice in the matter. As so serious a diminution in the amount of their savings is found to accrue to the emigrants from the arrangement, the Court are of opinion that no ground for the supposition that their free agency is interfered with should be afforded, and they request, therefore, that the Board will make a communication to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the colonies, with a view to the issue of instructions to the several emigration agents and protectors of emigrants in the colonies, to do no more than explain to returning emigrants the general security arising from the remittance of the savings by bill, but to inform them at the same time of the loss in amount which they may suffer by that mode of remittance.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James C. Melvill.*

The Secretary India Board.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure 1, in No. 10.

INDIA.—PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

LETTER dated 12th June (No. 51) 1857, reporting the arrival of emigrants per ship "Arabia," and drawing attention to losses sustained by the men.

Home Department, No. 51 of 1857.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company.

Honourable Sirs,

WE have the honour to forward the accompanying copy of a communication from the Government of Bengal, reporting the arrival of the emigrants from Trinidad in the ship "Arabia,"

BRITISH GUIANA.

"Arabia," whose embarkation was intimated to us in your Honourable Court's Despatch, No. 3 of 1857, dated the 2d January.

2. We beg to draw attention to the representation made by the officiating protector of emigrants, regarding the loss sustained by the men in consequence of their savings having been remitted by bills on the Commissariat. They are said to have been obliged to adopt this course, though they greatly preferred taking their savings with them in specie. The Emigration Agent at Calcutta has addressed the Commissioners on the subject, and we would only remark, that, though in taking bills instead of specie the emigrants exchange considerable risk for absolute security, they should be at liberty to make their remittances as they choose. In the present instance the men have lost about 6½ per cent. on their savings.

We have, &c.
(signed) *Canning.*
J. Dorin.
J. Low.
J. P. Grant.
B. Peacock.

Fort William, 12 June 1857.

Public Department, 2 January (No. 3) 1857.*

Our Governor General of India in Council.

Para. 1. We forward in the packet a copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, with its enclosures, relating to embarkation in the ship "Arabia," for Calcutta, of the coolie labourers, as noted in the margin,† who were entitled to return passages to India.

† 177 men, 48 women, 26 boys, 24 girls, 5 infants.

2. We also forward, in original, for delivery to the emigration agents at Calcutta, a Commissariat order for three thousand two hundred and ninety-five pounds eight shillings and four pence (3,295 *l.* 8 *s.* 4 *d.*), being the equivalent of $15,818 deposited by the coolies in the Colonial Treasury, in the proportions shown in the accompanying list.

We are, &c.
(signed) *W. H. Sykes.*
R. D. Mangles.
&c. &c.

London, 2d January 1857.

From *R. B. Chapman*, Esq., Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Sir, 24 February 1857.

Home Department.

I AM directed to transmit the accompanying copy of a Despatch, No. 3 of 1857, dated the 2d January, from the Honourable the Court of Directors, and of its enclosures, relating to the embarkation in the ship "Arabia," for Calcutta, of certain Indian emigrants who had proceeded to Trinidad.

2. The original Commissariat order for 3,295 *l.* 8 *s.* 4 *d.* received with the Honourable Court's Despatch, is also forwarded for delivery to the Emigration Agent at Calcutta.

I have, &c.
(signed) *R. B. Chapman,*
Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India.

From *E. H. Lushington*, Esq., in charge of the Office of the Secretary to the Government of Bengal at the Presidency, to the Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Sir, Fort William, 25 April 1857.

General.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 386, dated the 24th February last, giving cover to a copy of a Despatch, with its enclosures, from the Honourable the Court of Directors, relating to the embarkation in the ship "Arabia," for Calcutta, of certain Indian emigrants who had proceeded to Trinidad, and to state that the original Commissariat order for 3,295 *l.* 8 *s.* 4 *d.*, received with the Honourable Court's Despatch, was forwarded to the Emigration Agent at Calcutta on the 17th ultimo.

2. I am now desired to transmit a copy of the letters noted in the margin,‡ received from the Officiating Protector of Emigrants at this port, reporting the arrival of the emigrants from Trinidad on the ship "Arabia," and the heavy loss which they have sustained, in consequence

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* Remittance of money deposited in the Treasury at Trinidad, by returned coolie emigrants per "Arabia."

‡ No. 2, dated 16th March 1857, with Enclosure. No. 5, dated 17th April 1857.

quence of their savings having been remitted to Calcutta by bills upon the Commissariat, and suggesting, that when the Colonial Government consider it desirable to send the savings of emigrants otherwise than in specie, some arrangement should be made to secure them against loss by the difference of exchange.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. Lushington,*
in charge of the Office of the Secretary to the
Government of Bengal at the Presidency.

From the Officiating Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta to *E. Lushington,* Esq., in charge of the Office of the Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, the arrival of the ship "Arabia," of 998 tons, Capt. George Forest, from the island of Trinidad, which place she left on the 19th October 1856, with 297 emigrants on board, as per margin; she arrived at Garden Reach on the 12th instant.

Men - -	183
Women - -	48
Boys - -	28
Girls - -	31
Infants - -	7
	297

2. Immediately on the vessel's arrival, the Assistant Protector went on board and landed the people.

3. The surgeon superintendent, Dr. James Peter Hill, reported the death of five men, one boy, one girl, and two infants, and the birth of one infant during the voyage. I beg to forward an abstract from the "Medical Journal" furnished to me by Dr. Hill, showing the names, &c., of the deceased, and as three of them have left property, I shall take the first opportunity of realising it, and lodging it as usual in the Treasury.

4. The return emigrants by the "Arabia" expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the treatment and the quantity and quality of the provisions, water, &c., received during the voyage. The Asistant Protector has warned them about the danger of travelling with cash upon their persons.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thomas Hill,*
For Offg. Protector of Emigrants.

Protector's Office, Fort William,
16 March 1857.

ABSTRACT of Medical Journal for the Week ending 185 .

NAME.	AGE. Males.	AGE. Females.	DISEASE.	How many Days since entered for Treatment.	If discharged in the course of the Week, state the Reason.
Bundhoo - -	M.	- -	Purumonea - -	- -	Died 29 October 1856.
Jeebunroy - -	,,	- -	Dysentery - -	- -	Died 3 November 1856.
Poosoopooter - -	,,	- -	- ditto - -	- -	Died 25 December 1856.
Sohun Roy's child -	,,	- -	Capillary bronchitis	- -	Died 15 January 1857.
Khoorsehal - -	,,	- -	Diarrhœa - -	- -	Died 20 January 1857.
Sourchurn's child -	- -	F.	- ditto.	—	—
Another child of Sourchurn's also died; it was born at about 7th month of utero-gestation, and was never worth much.					
Teeluck - - -	M.	- -	Bronchitis - -	- -	Died 14 February 1857.

(signed) *J. P. Hill,*
Surgeon, &c., Cooli Ship "Arabia."

A female infant, born in the river, died two days afterwards.

(signed) *J. P. Hill.*

From the Officiating Protector of Emigrants at the Fort of Calcutta, to *A. R. Young,* Esq. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Sir,

IN continuance of my letter No. 2, dated 16th March, reporting the arrival of the ship "Arabia," with 297 emigrants from Trinidad, I have now the honour to report that the emigrants were detained some time in Calcutta in consequence of their savings having been remitted to Calcutta by bills upon the Commissariat. I have respectfully to represent that considerable loss to the people resulted from this mode of transmitting their money; had they brought Spanish dollars in specie, the difference in amount to them would have been about 2,000 rupees.

2. On a previous occasion, those who returned by the "Eliza," March 1852, had their money forwarded in Government bill, by which they were great losers; but on the circum-

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stance being brought to the knowledge of the Board, remittance in bills was discontinued, and each who came back subsequently brought his saving in specie. As, however, this mode is open to the objection of loss from accident to the ship or by theft, I beg most respectfully to suggest, when the Colonial Government consider it desirable to send the men's savings otherwise than in specie, some arrangement ought to be made to secure the emigrant against the heavy loss by difference of exchange.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Jas. Sutherland,*
Offg. Protector of Emigrants.

Protector's Office, Fort William,
17 April 1857.

Encl. 2, in No. 10.

Enclosure 2, in No. 10.

Sir, Emigration Office, 30 December 1857.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 23d instant, enclosing the copy of a letter which has been received from the India Board respecting the mode of transmitting the coolies' savings to India.

f. 117.

2. In the first instance it was considered advisable (and this we have hitherto supposed to be the view of the Indian Governments) to exercise a certain compulsion on the Indians in order to oblige them to hand over their savings to the Government for transmission to India, instead of running the risk (alleged to be considerable) of carrying the money on their persons.

3. But as soon as this was done, complaints arose that the coolies lost the profit which, according to the ordinary rate of exchange, would have accrued to them by carrying their money in specie. In short (as is natural with ignorant men), they wanted to have not only the security of not carrying money, but also the profit of carrying it. This was, of course, commercially speaking, unreasonable. But assuming the expediency of exercising some effectual Government influence in obliging coolies to entrust their savings to Government, we thought it would be difficult to deny them compensation for any loss they might suffer from yielding to this influence. We accordingly suggested, in our report of the 6th November, a somewhat complicated arrangement by which this might be accomplished.

4. It is evident, however, that the Indian Governments do not contemplate their receiving this double advantage, while the Court of Directors distinctly request that instructions may be issued "to the several emigration agents and protectors of emigrants in the colonies to do no more than explain to returning emigrants the general security arising from the remittance of the savings by bill, but to inform them, at the same time, of the loss in amount which they may suffer by that mode of remittance."

5. There is no doubt that the course proposed by the Court of Directors, though less advantageous to the coolie, is abstractedly fairer, is much more simple, will be more acceptable to the Colonial Governments, and will involve the Government in less responsibility than that explained in our letter of the 6th November.

6. We would therefore recommend that the instructions suggested in the 10th section of our report of the 6th November should be withdrawn, and the Colonial authorities desired to conform to the wishes of the Directors by merely receiving from the coolies such deposits as they are willing to make, after it shall have been clearly explained to them that, while they gain in point of security, they will lose the profit on the transmission of specie. In this case the coolie should only receive a bill upon India for the sterling value of his deposits, and will receive payment of that bill at the current rate of exchange. We apprehend that the amount of loss which the coolies have sustained is considerably over-estimated, since it is assumed by the Officiating Protector, and after him by the other authorities, without suspicion that the coolies would have been able to obtain Spanish dollars in any quantities in the West Indies, without paying a premium, which we do not understand to be the case. The amount of the premium which they would have had to pay in the West Indies is of course to be deducted from the amount of premium which they would receive in the East.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

— No. 11. —

No. 11.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
16 January 1858.

(No. 372.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere,* M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker.*

Enclosure, 8 December 1857.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 January 1858.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 31st July last, No. 294,* on the subject of private emigration from Bombay, and to which I have not yet received your answer, I transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a report from the

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* *Vide* Paper presented August 1857, page 134.

the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom I referred two Despatches from the Governor of Trinidad, together with a copy of a Despatch I have addressed to Governor Keate.

You will see that I think it might facilitate arriving at some arrangement acceptable to both colonies were you to communicate directly with one another in this matter.

No. 126, 16 Jan. 1858.

Vide page 386.

(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 11.

Encl. in No. 11.

Sir, Emigration Office, 8 December 1857.

We have to acknowledge your letters of the 11th and 27th October last, enclosing copies of Despatches from the Governor of Trinidad, respecting emigration from Bombay to the West Indies.

2. In the latter of these Despatches Mr. Keate transmits a report from the Standing Committee on Immigration which contains a series of suggestions as to the mode of carrying on coolie immigration. In commenting on these we shall in fact have noticed all the points raised in Mr. Keate's Despatch.

3.—1. The Legislature and Governor of Trinidad apprehend that the introduction of immigrants at the expense of private persons from Bombay will not be carried on purely for the benefit of the planters, but for that of the importing capitalists, who will force the planters in effect to pay them a profit on the immigration. They therefore prefer that the emigration from Bombay, like that from Calcutta, should be carried on at the direct expense of the Colonial Government. We do not understand that more than this is meant by the use of the word "bounty."

4. To this we see no objection. It will be the duty of the emigration agent to fill ships chartered for different colonies in such proportion and rotation as may be hereafter determined, and, as far as we see, his proceedings cannot be embarrassed by the circumstance that, in the case of British Guiana, the ships are chartered by private firms, and in the case of Trinidad by Government. If, however, the two systems should hereafter prove incompatible, it must be remembered that one great object in opening Bombay is to try the experiment of private emigration.

5.—2. The Committee consider that the return passages should be paid for by the Government, and not by the importer of the coolies.

6. This objection is founded on some misapprehension. The course proposed by the Committee is clearly the right one, and indeed the only one which the Home Government could properly sanction. It would be most objectionable that the immigrants' return passage should depend on the good faith or solvency of any individual. It is to the Government that the coolie will evidently look for the performance of a pledge which is made to him through a Government officer, and therefore conveys to his mind a Government guarantee.

7. We should here notice that the Committee are under the impression that a coolie will be required to pay 35 dollars towards the cost of his return passage. It must have escaped their recollection that Mr. Caird found it impossible to carry on an emigration on this condition, and that it was consequently necessary to waive this demand. It is true that the Trinidad Immigration Ordinance, No. 24 of 1854, contemplates such a contribution, enacting that the return immigrant shall pay such a sum not exceeding 7 *l.* 5 *s.* 10 *d.*, as the Governor may direct; and it might perhaps have been desirable to require the repeal of this provision of the law, which of course has become a dead letter. Such a repeal was not at once insisted on, because the same purpose would be practically answered by simply instructing the Governor not to require any contribution at all.

8.—3. The Committee express their hope that the Government will modify the present rule which regulates the proportion between passengers and tonnage in coolie ships. Mr. Labouchere is aware that the small mortality which is said to have occurred in French emigrant ships, has been adduced as an argument for such a modification, and that the Indian Government has been requested to inquire into the regulations under which this result was produced. Pending this inquiry, it would of course be premature to offer any opinion on the subject. We will only observe that the mortality which occurred last year in the Calcutta ships, obliges the Government to extreme caution in relaxing any rule calculated to secure the health of the emigrants.

9.—4. The Committee desire that immigrants may be at liberty to commute their return passages for an equivalent in land or money. Practically, these commutations have been largely authorised in all of the three great importing colonies, Jamaica, British Guiana, and Trinidad. But the Home Government have been unwilling to recognise any fixed rule of commutation as part of the system of emigration. We have before now stated that we are not aware of the grounds of this reluctance, nor do we see any objection to the proposal of the Committee. There is, however, no great reason why this question should be decided at the present moment, since the claims of immigrants introduced with a right to

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return passages after five years' residence must be almost entirely disposed of, while none of those who are bound to remain 10 years in the colony will be entitled to back passages till the year 1863.

10. The question of appointing a separate agent for Bombay may be considered as disposed of by Mr. Labouchere's Despatch to Governor Keate, No. 97, of 9th November last. Although the Home Government will not be responsible for the emigration from Bombay to the same extent as for that from Calcutta and Madras, yet it is plain that the particular risks which arise from a divided agency are as likely to arise in one Presidency as in another.

We take it for granted, therefore, that Mr. Labouchere will consider it indispensable to adhere to the existing rule at Bombay as at Calcutta and Madras.

11. We take this opportunity, however, of pointing out that it is very desirable that some steps should be taken for securing that such an officer is appointed a month or two before the commencement of the next emigration season in September 1858.

12. The first point demanding consideration is the amount of salary to be given (which, in British Guiana, must, we presume, be authorised by the Court of Policy); on this will depend in a great measure the selection of the person to fill the office.

13. On these heads, which can hardly be treated separately, we venture to offer the following remarks:—

14. The duties of the emigration agent will of course be principally confined to the six months of the emigration season. He will be required to collect emigrants for all West Indian colonies who may require them, to maintain them in depôt, to ascertain that the ships furnished by private persons for the British Guiana emigration are sea-worthy and properly found; that the due proportion of passengers is not exceeded, and generally that the law is obeyed; and he will probably have to charter ships for Trinidad.

15. It is evident that these functions (involving the expenditure of considerable sums of money, and the making of engagements on behalf of Government) require a considerable amount of intelligence, commercial experience and character, and therefore that it will be very false economy to fix the salary at too low a rate.

16. At the same time, it will be observed, that the duties of this officer cannot occupy much more than half the year, and that the extent of his operations is purely a matter of conjecture. To remunerate him by a fee on emigrants despatched, which is the obvious escape from this difficulty, is forbidden by the Indian law.

17. We may state, however, that Mr. Caird, appointed by the Secretary of State, receives, for conducting the Mauritius and West Indian emigration, a salary of 1,500 *l.* a year, and that Mr. Franklin appointed (we believe) by the Colonial Government to conduct emigration to Mauritius alone from Madras, receives 500 *l.* for that service. The Secretary of State, however, has since added 200 *l.* to this salary for West Indian emigration, which it was supposed would not exceed two or three ships in the year.

18. Probably with reference to the work performed 500 *l.* or 600 *l.* a year would be considered enough for the emigration agent at Bombay. But considering the cost of going out to India, and the uncertain tenure of the office, it seems very improbable that any person not already resident at Bombay, and in possession of some independent sources of income, would accept it at a less salary than 1,000 *l.* or 1,200 *l.* a year.

19. We would submit, therefore, whether it would not be desirable to ascertain from the colonies what salary they would be prepared to give to the emigration agent at Bombay, or whether they would be content to leave the determination of that salary to the Home Government.

20. If it is at all probable that a resident at Bombay will be appointed, it may perhaps be desirable to ascertain from the Government of that Presidency, or in such other manner as Mr. Labouchere may think best, the names of some gentlemen who would be competent to undertake the duties and the salary which it would be proper to offer them, and in this case the necessary inquiries should be made with little delay, as the communications with Bombay (requiring three posts) would take up at least five months, and the agent should be placed in a position to commence his preliminary operations in the course of next July.

21. The Governor's statement that a jealousy of British Guiana is felt in Trinidad makes it advisable not to appoint a gentleman connected in any way with the former colony.

22. And in connexion with this point we should perhaps notice, in conclusion, the alleged impression that this Board is inclined to postpone the interests of Trinidad to those of British Guiana. To such an impression, without knowing the grounds on which it rests, it is of course impossible to supply any answer. We may, however, be allowed to observe that the course of business would make it very difficult to show any partiality to either colony. The only point on which (as far as we can conceive) it would be possible to do so, would be in the instructions issued to Mr. Caird respecting the proportion in which emigrants are to be despatched to the two colonies. And, as far as we can judge, these instructions have been at least as favourable to Trinidad as the relative importance of that colony and British Guiana would justify.

23. It

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23. It is possible, however, (if not in other respects inconvenient) that such an impression might be in some measure counteracted by a more frequent publication of the correspondence on the subject of West Indian emigration, which would acquaint each colony with all that had been done in respect of others. As illustrating the advantage of such publicity we may perhaps be allowed to point out that the last Paper published on that subject with reference to Trinidad, comprises a Despatch from Lord Harris, containing charges of mismanagement against this Board, urged with the warmth and decision with which his Lordship always advocated the interests of his Government. Our own explanation elicited from his Lordship a full and gratifying withdrawal of this charge; but as this explanation and withdrawal are not printed for Parliament, it is possible that the Legislature of Trinidad may have remained under the impression that their interests had been neglected.

P. P. 986 of 1853. page 147.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 12. —

(No. 375.)

No. 12. Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Gov. Walker. 22 Jan. 1858. P. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 22 January 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 21st November, No. 48,* and I have to convey to you Her Majesty's gracious confirmation and allowance of the Ordinance passed by yourself and the Court of Policy of British Guiana, intituled,

"An Ordinance to make certain alterations and amendments in the Laws relating to Immigration."

No. 18, of 1857.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 13. —

(No. 378.)

No. 13. Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Gov. Walker. 23 Jan. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 23 January 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information, and in order that copies may be laid before the Court of Policy, a copy of a memorial from the West India Association of Glasgow, in regard to the immigration to the West Indies, and complaining of the conduct of the emigration agents in India, in not promptly and energetically fulfilling the orders transmitted to them, together with copy of a report upon it from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom I have caused it to be referred for their observations.

Enclosure 1.

Enclosure 2.

I have &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure 1 to No. 13.

Encl. 1, in No. 13.

To the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Memorial of the West India Association of Glasgow.

Humbly Sheweth,

THAT in common with all persons concerned in the agriculture and trade of the West India Colonies, they feel deeply interested in the success of the emancipation of coolies from British India to these colonies, as being at present the main dependence of most of them for sustaining the cultivation of their staple products.

That they have frequently observed with great regret and dissatisfaction, the supine and dilatory manner in which this, to them, so important emigration has been conducted. On several occasions, Mr. Caird, at Calcutta, and Mr. Franklin, at Madras, the agents employed in these places, on behalf, and at the charge of the colonies receiving immigrants, have allowed a portion of the season assigned for the embarkation of emigrants destined to the West Indies to elapse before dispatching the first ship; and, in consequence of this

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tardy commencement, the seasons have hitherto finished by falling greatly short of the number of coolies, whose cost must be previously provided for by the Colonial Governments, as insisted on by the authorities at home. These agents in the East Indies, have in like manner allowed the first two months of this season to pass away without dispatching a single ship, although the scarcity of tonnage cannot be assigned as a reason. It is not by such feeble agency that the British Colonies are to be enabled to maintain their cultivation in competition with the vigorous Slave Trade of Cuba, or the questionable efforts of other sugar producing countries to obtain labour; and unless greater efficiency can be imparted to it, the colonies that now contribute to the emolument of the present agents, must dispense with their services, and press for some other arrangement in order to secure the labour which the memorialists know from their own connexions in India, to be there obtainable. Your memorialists also complain that while the requirement of the West India Colonies has not been met, numerous shipments have been made to the Mauritius, and although it was ordered by your predecessor, Lord Grey, that emigration to that colony should cease on 31st August, and then commence to the British West Indies, they see with surprise in the Calcutta Shipping Lists, which is the only source from whence they can obtain information, Mr. Caird's correspondence with the Commissioners having apparently been suspended for several months, that not only were 638 coolies dispatched by the "Blue Jacket," and the "Carnatic," in September and October, to the Mauritius, but tenders for additional tonnage for the same place were invited so late as the 8th October, and they respectfully submit that there is great reason to complain of Mr. Caird's conduct in this respect.

The memorialists therefore pray you to take this subject into your serious consideration, and require the prompt and energetic fulfilment of the emigration agents in India, of the orders transmitted through the Emigration Commissioners.

Signed in name and by authority of the West India Association, by

William F. Burnley, Deputy Chairman.
C. D. Donald, Secretary.

Glasgow, 14 December 1857.

Encl. 2, in No. 13.

Enclosure 2, in No. 13.

Sir, Emigration Office, 5 January 1858.

We have to acknowledge your letter of the 23d ultimo, enclosing the copy of a memorial from the Glasgow West India Association, respecting coolie emigration to the West Indies.

2. The memorialists complain, that owing to the want of zeal on the part of the emigration agents in India, Messrs. Caird and Franklin, the two first months of the West Indian emigration season have, on several occasions, been lost, and that this fault has been repeated in the present year, although there is no scarcity of tonnage, while to Mauritius 630 emigrants appear by the papers to have been sent from Calcutta during September and October, and tenders to have been issued for another ship.

3. The memorialists appear unacquainted with the history of emigration from Madras to the West Indies. Being unacceptable to the West Indian colonists, it was not authorised till after the commencement of the season 1855-56. In 1856-57 (the first year to which the memorialists observations can apply), it was conducted not by Mr. Franklin but by Mr. Thomson, and it failed, not from any tardiness on the part of that gentleman, who contracted with a native agent for a supply of 550 emigrants on the 7th September, but from the inability of that native agent to obtain emigrants. Mr. Franklin, who succeeded Mr. Thomson, and has conducted the emigration of this year, has long ago expressed doubts whether he could obtain emigrants for more than "two or three ships" in the course of the season, and this only if emigration to Mauritius were suspended. If, therefore (as we apprehend to be the case), he has not yet dispatched any ship to the West Indies, it is probably from impediments similar to those which disappointed Mr. Thomson's expectations, and not from any delay in bringing his machinery into play. On this point we shall request information from him.

4. With regard to Mr. Caird it is perfectly true, that (with scarcely an exception), he has not dispatched his first ship till October. In a letter dated the 20th March last, he informed us that he could not feel secure of filling ships in September, probably from the difficulty of beginning his collections for the West Indies, before the dispatch of ships to Mauritius was fairly concluded. In reply, we pointed out the disadvantage of losing the first months of the season. On the 21st of September, however, he informed us, that the disturbed state of the country had stopped his collections, but that he hoped to set on foot a steady emigration before the end of October. At this we cannot be surprised, but as this is the last communication we have received from him on this subject, we think him to blame for not having informed us of his prospects.

5. We annex copies of letters, in which Mr. Caird and the agent at Madras have, at different times, stated the impediments to which Indian immigration into the West Indies is subject, and on this point we cannot but offer one observation. There are important differences between emigration to Mauritius and to the West Indies, to which the coolies, in the districts from which emigration proceeds, are plainly alive; and this difference is fully kept in view by the delegates of the Mauritius planters, who indeed were formerly accused

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of having represented British Guiana as a great "ice land." Before arriving at the West Indies the coolies have to undergo a long and formidable voyage; the number of their countrymen settled there is comparatively small, and accounts which return coolies bring back from the West Indies (especially to the Madras Presidency), are less attractive than those which are continually brought home from Mauritius. Finally, these disadvantages are materially heightened by the terms of the immigration, framed to meet the wishes of the planters, which practically require the cooly to remain in the West Indies for 10 years, while he is able, at an insignificant expense, to return from Mauritius, after a residence of half that period. It is evident, therefore, on the whole, that the terms on which coolies emigrate to the West Indies, are comparatively unacceptable, and, so long as the West Indians adhere to these terms, they will always find the difficulties inseparable from the endeavour to obtain an article in large quantities, at less than the market price. This consequence is not to be imputed to the agent, but is inherent in the nature of the case.

6. With regard to the alleged despatch of coolies to the Mauritius, the present rule is somewhat indefinite. In practice, Mr. Caird endeavours to close the Mauritius Emigration as the West India Emigration begins, but he does not (as we understand) refuse to send on persons who present themselves voluntarily at the depôt for that purpose. It will be seen from Mr. Caird's letters that coolies who have come to Calcutta in order to emigrate to Mauritius, have actually preferred to return home, rather than proceed to the West Indies, and it is plain that to prohibit the forwarding of such persons might, till the regulations were thoroughly understood by the emigrating population, inflict severe hardship on the cooly, with little corresponding benefit to the West Indies. We fully admit, however, that on this head, the facts stated by the memorialists are such as demand enquiry, especially in connexion with Mr. Caird's statement that the disturbed state of the country had stopped emigration. We would propose to communicate the memorial to Mr. Caird, desiring him especially to report on this point.

7. The memorialists state that they know, from their own connexions in India, that labour is obtainable; but we have learnt from repeated experience how easy it is for persons not under any immediate necessity of making good their words, to be deceived on points of this kind, and after the failure of Mr. Thomson's anticipations, we are especially inclined to receive such general allegations with mistrust.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 13.

(1.)—EXTRACT of Letter from Mr. *Caird* to Mr. *Walcott*, dated 5th December 1853.

I CANNOT say at present the exact number altogether I may be able to procure this year for the West India colonies, as efficient labourers, with their families, are not very abundant just now, besides which the new arrangement by which they are required to remain 10 years, instead of five, has in some measure been the cause of many declining to go for the extended period. I trust, however, that the number will not fall far short, if it does at all, of that ordered for both colonies.

(2.)—Mr. *Caird* to Mr. *Walcott*, 18th April 1854.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th of February last, requesting me, in the event of the number of labourers despatched to the West India colonies, in the past season, having fallen short of the number ordered, viz. 3,500, that I would, in such case, furnish the Board with a statement of the means which I had taken to procure emigrants, and also the causes, if any, which had operated to prevent my sending the full number required.

2. In reply, I have to observe, that at the commencement of the season I made advances as usual to recruiters for the purpose of proceeding into the provinces to collect labourers with families, engaging to pay them for their trouble a fixed rate per head for every soul embarked.

3. I regret to say, however, that labourers were not forthcoming to the extent which I had anticipated; and, out of those which reached the depôt, a large number most positively refused to go to the West Indies for 10 years, but they gave me to understand they were willing to engage for five, and not for a longer period. I lost, therefore, many of the best description in consequence of the new rule.

4. I had also hopes, in the beginning of the season, of obtaining a number of coolies through the agency of men who had come back from the West Indies; but they also failed me, and I am inclined to think, that had the reports which return men circulated through the districts from which the coolies are drawn been more tempting that a number of people would have come down of their own accord unassisted.

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5. These causes limited my supply of labourers, and I was consequently unable to despatch a larger number of emigrants than what I did get off in the early part of the season; and at the latter end, when I had a sufficient number remaining over to fill at least one ship more, I could not have engaged a vessel for their conveyance for less than 20 *l.* to 25 *l.* per head, at which price it could never have repaid the colony to have imported labourers.

(3.)—Mr. *Caird* to Mr. *Walcott*, 4th September 1854.

I regret, moreover, to say, that coolies are not in the slightest degree more disposed this season than they were during the past to engage for 10 years for the West India colonies, and my supply of labourers has daily diminished since I commenced registering for the West Indies.

It is, therefore, quite impossible for me to state just now what number of labourers, with their families, I shall be able to despatch this season to British Guiana beyond the number that will be required to fill the vessels chartered in England.

(4.)—Mr. *Caird* to Colonial Secretary British Guiana, 8th January 1855.

I take this opportunity of again bringing to the notice of the Government the great difficulty which still exists of procuring good labourers in any large number for the West Indies, and that the people show a greater reluctance to go now than they did 10 years since. The men who have come back from British Guiana will not assist me in the slightest degree in obtaining fresh emigrants, but, on the contrary, they deter others from going by the accounts which they have spread against the colony, and the number who abscond daily from the depôt, after having been fed for days together, is very considerable.

(5.)—Mr. *Caird* to Mr. *Walcott*, 7th April 1855

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3d February last, requesting that I would report, for the information of the Board, the circumstances which have tended to prevent my furnishing a larger number of emigrants for the West India colonies during the past season.

5 Dec. 1853.
18 April 1854.
4 Sept. 1854.
8 Jan. 1855.

2. In reply, I would beg leave to draw the attention of the Board to my letters noted in the margin, in which I have endeavoured to explain the various causes which combine to make the West India emigration anything but popular with the natives of this country, and therefore my utter inability to forward on an unlimited number of efficient labourers in any one season to the West Indies.

3. In the 9th paragraph of my letter to the Secretary to the Government of British Guiana, copy of which was enclosed to you in my letter of the 8th January last, I informed his Excellency that a number of coolies had come down last cold weather to Calcutta with the intention of going to Mauritius, and not being required for that colony, had returned again to their villages, although I had offered to take them for the West Indies. This fact, added to the circumstance of so many coolies absconding after they have been brought to the depôt, shows that the people generally have not that confidence in the West Indies which is so necessary to insure a successful emigration to a large extent.

4. When the proposition for extending the period of industrial residence from five to 10 years was under the consideration of the Government, I was led to believe by the colonists of Trinidad and British Guiana, that provided they could get the people for 10 years, they would require but a very limited number annually. I most certainly never expected to have been called upon to provide 3,500 able-bodied emigrants in one year, much less that I should be required to furnish coolies for a third colony in addition to those two. If the emigration was now confined to British Guiana and Trinidad alone, I have no doubt but that I should be able to send them as many labourers as they will require in the aggregate in the course of three or four years, taking one year with another.

5. Since my return from the West Indies, upwards of 2,600 picked people have annually been despatched under the new rule of 10 years of industrial residence to entitle them to a free return passage, and I am not at all sanguine of being able to furnish, in the ensuing season, a larger number of efficient labourers than what have been sent in the past season, particularly if the orders conveyed to me in your letter of the 20th November last, are to be carried out, viz.: that emigrants who may proceed in future to the West Indies shall be required to contribute 35 dollars towards the expense of the return passage after they shall have completed their prescribed term of industrial residence.

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6. With regard to increasing the proportion of female emigrants, I beg to say, that 18 per cent. have embarked with the coolies in the past season, and that every exertion was made, and no expense spared, to obtain a greater number, but without effect. I had considerable difficulty in securing those who went, and I think the colonists will have no reason to complain of the quality of the people who have gone in 1854-55.

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(6). Mr. *Caird* to Mr. *Walcott*, 20 March 1857.

I HAVE the honour to state for the information of the Commissioners that the ships noted in the margin arrived here last year long before I had Coolies to fill them, and had it not so happened that the "Bucephalus" had to undergo heavy repairs in dock, which necessarily detained her much beyond the time fixed in the charter-party for her departure from hence, I should inevitably have come under demurrage to one of the above vessels.

(7.) Mr. *Caird* to *Mr. Walcott*, 21 September, 1857.

I HAVE the honour to state for the information of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners that, consequent upon the disturbed state of the Upper Provinces, I have not been able to procure up to this date any coolies for the West Indies, and as the ship "Mary Harrison" was over her time in reaching this port, and the "Wellesley" being daily expected, I have, under the circumstances, declined to employ the former vessel as intended by the charter-party entered into in England.

I hope by the middle or latter end of next month to receive regular supplies of people, when I shall take up a ship here in lieu of the "Mary Harrison."

(1.) Mr. *Franklin* to Mr. *Walcott*, 14 January 1857..

I HAD had some years' experience in emigration affairs, and had made it my business to inquire whether the natives were willing or anxious to proceed to the West Indies, and found them invariably disinclined to it. If emigration were now open to the Mauritius, I doubt if the "Stamboul" could have been filled, and even as it is you will perceive that much difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the required number for her.

(2.) Mr. *Thomson* to Mr. *Walcott*, 27 September 1856.

ANOTHER request I have to make which is, that I should be allowed to make some advance to each emigrant to be deducted out of his earnings in the colony, which is done in Pondicherry, where they get more emigrants for the Antilles than we can for our colonies on this account. I have heard from good authority that the emigrants get 15 rupees as an advance at Pondicherry, which is a great inducement for them to emigrate; and to this is attributed the very large numbers that go from Pondicherry yearly, and also that they should get a free passage back to this country after an industrial residence of five years and not ten as at present stipulated. I may here inform you that I have been compelled to tell the emigrants that they will be allowed to return to their country after an industrial residence of five years, by this you will find that a much larger number of men will emigrate when they see their fellow countrymen return with such good account as I find many give of their treatment and of the colonies.

(8.) Mr. *Caird* to Mr. *Walcott*, 7 November 1856.

IN reply, I have to state that the Governor of Guiana himself wrote me a private note in February last relative to the future prospects of that colony in respect to emigration from India. In answer to this I informed him that I could hold out no hopes of their obtaining any large number of emigrants from this presidency unless the Secretary of State could be prevailed upon to modify the order, which requires that not under 33 per cent. of females shall be sent during the season to any colony to which coolies may be emigrating.

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 14. —

No. 14.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
11 February 1858.
P. 125.

(No. 379.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 February 1858.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 13th ultimo, No. 371,* I transmit to you for your information and guidance a copy of a letter from the Commissioners for the Affairs in India with reference to the transmission of the savings of return coolies to India.

Enclosure, 19 January 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 14.

Enclosure in No. 14.

Sir, India Board, 19th January 1858.

I HAVE received and laid before the Commissioners for the Affairs of India your letter of the 15th instant, enclosing a report from the Emigration Commissioners relative to the mode of transmitting the savings of coolies to India.

In reply, I am desired to state, that as the plan suggested by the Emigration Commissioners in their report of the 6th of November last has been fully approved of by this Board and the Court of Directors, and instructions accordingly forwarded to India, the Board consider it undesirable to make any alteration, especially as the plan already sanctioned is more beneficial to the coolies themselves.

I am, &c.
T. F. Elliot, Esq., &c. &c. (signed) *George Clerk.*

— No. 15. —

No. 15.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
17 January 1858.

(No. 386.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 February 1858.

I TRANSMIT for your information the copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners with one from Mr. Caird, reporting the departure of the "Bucephalus" for Demerara with 396 coolies, and adverting to the unpromising prospects of cooly emigration to the West Indies for the ensuing season.

Enclosure, 5 February 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 15.

Enclosure in No. 15.

Sir, Emigration Office, 5 February 1858.

WE enclose for the information of Mr. Secretary Labouchere, and for transmission to the Governor of British Guiana, the copy of a letter from Mr. Caird, in which he reports the departure of the cooly ship "Bucephalus," from Calcutta to Demerara, with 396 coolies on board, viz., 211 males, 110 females, 32 boys, 27 girls, 16 infants.

23 December, Sub-Enclosure.

2. We also enclose the copy of a further letter, in which Mr. Caird explains the difficulty of obtaining coolies for the West Indies, consequent on the disturbed state of Bengal, and the impoverished condition of many of the labourers whom he has been obliged to send back to their villages as unfit for emigration. It will of course be remembered, that the great mortality which took place in the emigration of last season has been ascribed to a want of care on Mr. Caird's part, respecting the state of health in which the emigrants were embarked. We would suggest that copies of this letter should be forwarded to the Governors of British Guiana and Trinidad for their imformation. We regret that it does not exhibit more favourable prospects for this year's emigration.

24 December, Sub-Enclosure.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 15.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
23 December 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having despatched the ship "Bucephalus" to Demerara with the under-mentioned number of emigrants.

2. The surgeon's certificate of health, together with copy of a letter from that officer, stating it as his opinion that it would not be desirable, before the departure of the ship from this port, to erect an hospital in the between-decks, and that if one was eventually required, it could easily be put up at sea.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird*,
Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c.

Ship "Bucephalus"—211 males, 110 females, 32 boys, 27 girls, 16 infants, despatched on the 19th December 1857.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 15.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
24 December 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 25 of the 10th ultimo; and, in reply, to state that I only despatched the "Bucephalus" on the 19th instant.

2. The prospects of obtaining labourers this season for the West India colonies are far from promising, owing to the disturbed state of the Upper Provinces and the Government impress, along the high road from Calcutta to Allahabad, of coolies for military purposes.

3. Another unforeseen circumstance is, the miserable condition from want of food in their own country, in which large numbers of labourers, with their families, from the districts adjacent to Calcutta, reach the depôt, and the consequence has been that I have been obliged to send them all back to their villages, very much disappointed, of course, at not having been retained; and these people have prevented many efficient parties from coming down, from the false reports which they have circulated as to the cause of their having been rejected.

4. I have innumerable difficulties to contend against in procuring emigrants for the West Indies, and I beg to assure the Board, that it is impossible for me to state much before hand with any degree of certainty what number will be available, as the most trivial circumstance materially affects the supply of people; and to show that I get no assistance whatever from coolies who have been in the West Indies, I may here state, with reference to my letter of the 4th ultimo, that there are eight men returning to Guiana by the "Bucephalus," who have not collected one individual, although they were promised large sums for every person they could bring me.

5. The "Ellenborough" is now ready to receive coolies, and I hope to have her complement collected by the 10th proximo, when I shall take up another vessel for Guiana; and I think myself, under the circumstances, that I did right in refusing to employ the ship "Mary Harrison," otherwise the other three vessels would have been detained here long beyond the dates fixed for their sailing, and which would have caused much disappointment to all concerned.

6. With regard to the statement made to the Commissioners by certain merchants of Liverpool, that I had engaged two ships for the conveyance of coolies from Madras to the West Indies, I have merely to remark, that such is not the case, and that the report is totally unfounded.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird*,
Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c.

— No. 16. —

(No. 387.)

No. 16.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
18 February 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 18 February 1858.

I TRANSMIT, for your information, the copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, enclosing a correspondence with the owners of the ship "White Eagle," which is on her way to Demerara with 350 emigrants.

Enclosure, 12 February 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 16.

9 February, Sub-Enclosure 1.
11 February, Sub-Enclosure 2.

Sir, Emigration Office, 12 February 1858.

We enclose, for transmission to the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana, copies of a letter which we have received from the owner of the ship "White Eagle," which is now carrying to Demerara 350 emigrants from Madras, and of the answer which we have returned to him.

2. Even if we should receive from the colony directions to engage a return coolie ship, we should be reluctant to do so at this season of the year, since any ship hereafter engaged by us in England could scarcely fail to round the Cape of Good Hope during the coldest season. We think, therefore, that it might be most convenient to inform the Lieutenant Governor that even should we receive such directions we shall not act on them, leaving the Colonial authorities either to make a bargain for themselves with the "White Eagle," or to detain the coolies till the season arrives at which they may be better despatched, *i. e.*, till July or August.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 16.

Sir, 8, Savage-gardens, London, 9 February 1858.

The iron clipper ship "White Eagle," 1,015 tons, built for the coolie trade, has given great satisfaction to the Madras authorities, both as a troop and coolie ship, from her very superior ventilation and great speed. She is now *en route* to Demerara from the above port, and if offers for tender were now issued, I could take return emigrants for Madras at a very reasonable price. I should, however, require to advise by next West India packet, and knowing that a batch will be ready at Demerara in March or April, I take the liberty of inquiring as to whether the Colonial Office or your own have as yet had any advice on the subject. The "White Eagle" has landed at Mauritius nearly 400 coolies without a single case of sickness having occurred, and she has now 350 on board from Madras for Demerara. Although I am sorry to say she was detained 70 days beyond the time agreed on, from the difficulty experienced in collecting the emigrants in the present unsettled state of affairs in India, no demurrage was stipulated for; I am therefore the loser in the meantime by this very unexpected detention. Could you advise me as to how I should apply for recompense under such circumstances?

Waiting favour of reply,

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. G. Macfarlane,*
Owner of "White Eagle."

S. Walcott, Esq.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 16.

Sir, Emigration Office, 11 February 1858.

I am directed by the Emigration Commissioners to acknowledge your letter of the 9th instant, offering your ship, the "White Eagle," for the conveyance of coolies from Demerara to the East Indies.

I am to state that the Commissioners have not been instructed to take up any ships for this service, nor would it be advisable to do so at this period of the year, since vessels leaving the West Indies as late as March, would be likely to round the Cape of Good Hope at an unfavourable time. You can, however, if you choose, authorise the master of the "White Eagle" to offer the ship to the Governor of British Guiana.

Your claim for demurrage you will also prefer to him, but the Commissioners do not see even from your own statement how you can support any claim of that kind; the question will probably be, whether the terms of your charterparty, which was no doubt advisedly framed by the Emigration Agent, threw the risk of detention on you or on the colony.

I am, &c.
(signed) *S. Walcott,* Secretary.

J. G. Macfarlane, Esq.

— No. 17. —

No. 17.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Lieut. Governor Walker.
25 February 1858.

(No. 396.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere,* M.P. to Lieutenant Governor *Walker.*

Sir, Downing-street, 25 February 1858.

Having observed that a large number of liberated Africans have been taken into Sierra Leone, and located among the resident population, I instructed the Emigration Commissioners to take steps for facilitating the conveyance to the West Indies of such Africans as may hereafter reach that port under similar circumstances, I enclose the copy of an agreement, which they have accordingly concluded

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure.

concluded with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. I have instructed the Governor of Sierra Leone to use his best endeavours to fill the ships furnished under this agreement with such captured Africans as may consent to emigrate. It is of course impossible to predict the continuance of their captures or the degree to which the Africans may avail themselves of the opportunity offered them; but I think it desirable to inform you of the steps which I have taken to secure, as far as possible, to the West Indies, the benefits derivable from the operations of Her Majesty's cruisers.

I have also authorised the Governor to place on board of any ship proceeding to British Guiana, such of the resident population (being labourers under the age of 40, and their families) as may be willing to proceed thither. For these persons (as under the previous agreement with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co.) the colony will have to pay 5 *l.* per adult as freight (Article 16) and a fee of a dollar to the emigration agent in Sierra Leone.

This will not exceed the existing bounty of 25 dollars, and I have therefore supposed that the colonists of British Guiana would wish to have the advantages, if any, which would result from this article of the agreement.

I have instructed the Governor of Sierra Leone to explain to the emigrants of both classes (as far as possible) that they must be prepared on their arrival to enter into contracts of service to last for three years, or (in the case of children) till the age of 18. Of course, however, it will not be competent to the Government to impose or sanction such contracts, except in pursuance of some law which is in force in the colony on the arrival of the immigrants. I draw your attention to this point in order that the Legislature may make such provision in accordance with the above instructions, as they may consider to be under the existing circumstances required.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

P.S.—You will find in the accompanying Parliamentary Paper* the former instruction to the Emigration Agent at Sierra Leone, and various documents throwing light on the service.

* *Vide* Parl. Papers, No. 603 of 1850.

Enclosure in No. 17.

Encl. in No. 17.

MEMORANDUM of AGREEMENT, made this 12th day of February 1858, between *Stephen Walcott*, Secretary to, and on behalf of, the Emigration Commissioners, of the one part, and *John Hodge*, one of the Partners, and on behalf of the firm of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., of the city of London, merchants (hereinafter called the contractors), of the other part, witnesseth that it is mutually agreed as follows:—

Art. I. THAT from the 1st day of May 1858 to the 1st day of May 1860, the contractors shall furnish a supply of suitable vessels on the terms and in the manner hereinafter-mentioned for the conveyance of liberated Africans from the Government yards, or vessels at Sierra Leone, and St. Helena (hereinafter called the ports of embarkation) to the British West Indies, and that, while the contract is duly performed, no liberated African shall be conveyed to the British West Indies at the expense of the British or Colonial Governments, except either in vessels so furnished, or in virtue of some agreement made on behalf of the said Commissioners before the date of this contract, or made by the proper authorities at Sierra Leone, or St. Helena, upon receiving notice of the same; provided that the contractors may terminate this contract on the 1st day of May 1859, by notice in writing, to be delivered to the said Stephen Walcott, on or before the 1st day of November 1858.

Art. II. That, subject to the conditions hereinafter-mentioned, the contractors shall choose the time of despatching their vessels, giving however to the said Commissioners at least three weeks' previous notice of the departure of any ship from England, together with such particulars thereof as shall be necessary for obtaining the necessary pass and licence, but that the said Commissioners shall determine to what port or ports in the West Indies each ship shall proceed.

Art. III. That, for the purpose of this contract, the term Emigration Officer shall mean the emigration agent or other person acting in that capacity at Sierra Leone or St. Helena.

Art. IV. That the emigrants shall be selected by the emigration officer, with the assistance of the ship's surgeon, and, at Sierra Leone or St. Helena, subject to the approval of the Governor; and that if the ship's surgeon shall consider any person selected by the emigration officer as unfitted for the voyage by the state of his health, the difference shall be decided by the colonial surgeon, or, in his absence, by any other officer to be appointed by the Governor.

Art. V. That no ship shall be employed in this service which shall be rated lower than the red diphthong in Lloyd's list, nor unless she shall have been approved as fit for the conveyance

BRITISH GUIANA.

veyance of emigrants, both by the said Commissioners and by some officer to be appointed for that purpose by the Governor of Sierra Leone or St. Helena, as the case may be; and the officers appointed by the said Commissioners and by the said Governor, shall be entitled, at the expense of the contractors, to make all surveys and examinations both of the ship and of the fittings thereof, which they shall deem necessary for the purpose of ascertaining such fitness.

Art. VI. That the passengers shall be victualled according to the scale in the schedule hereto annexed, marked A, and that the vessel shall be provided with medical comforts and other stores for their use, enumerated in the schedule marked B, also annexed, and with such supply of medicines as the said Commissioners shall deem sufficient.

Art. VII. That such provisions, stores, and medicines shall be laid in, if required by the said Commissioners, before the ships leave England, and shall be of a quality to be approved by the emigration officer at the port from which the ship shall proceed. The said Commissioners shall determine the length of voyage for which such provisions, stores, and medicines shall be laid in, not exceeding in any case eight weeks.

Art. VIII. That provisions shall be made for ventilation to the satisfaction of the emigrant officer at the port from which the ship shall proceed.

Art. IX. That a surgeon, to be appointed by the Commissioners, shall receive from the contractors 25 *l.* if engaged for a single voyage, or payment at the rate of 100 *l.* per annum, if engaged for a succession of voyages; and in either case a free cabin passage out and home again, and shall be dieted at the captain's table, at the expense of the contractors, on condition of his taking the medical charge of the officers and crew of the ship, as well as of any passengers that may be embarked. But at the expiration of the engagement the captain of the vessel shall be at liberty, if he thinks fit, as soon he shall have landed all his passengers, to pay the surgeon; or the surgeon, after 30 days' stay in the colony, shall be entitled to demand the sum of 40 *l.* in satisfaction of his claim for maintenance in the colony, and for his free passage home.

Art. X. That the rate of passage-money on every liberated African landed alive in the West Indies, shall be:—

If embarked at Sierra Leone - - -	6 *l.* 1 *s.* 10 *d.* per adult.
If embarked at St. Helena - - -	6 *l.* 14 *s.* 10 *d.* per adult.

Provided, nevertheless—

1. That every person above 10 years of age shall be counted as an adult, and every person between one and 10 as half an adult, and that no charge shall be made for infants under one year of age.

2. That the passage-money payable on each emigrant shall be subject to a deduction, hereafter called "maintenance-money," at the rate of 3 *d.* per diem in respect of emigrants embarked at Sierra Leone, and of 6 *d.* per diem in respect of those embarked at St. Helena, for every day subsequent to the said 1st day of May 1858, during which such emigrant shall have remained under Government superintendence at Sierra Leone or St. Helena, after adjudication; and also to a further deduction of 1 *l.* on every emigrant who shall be sent to hospital or other receptacle for sick persons, on his arrival in the West Indies.

3. That any interpreters placed on board by or with the concurrence of the emigration officer at the port of embarkation, shall receive a steerage passage to the West Indies, at the rate of 6 *l.* a head, but shall be taken back to Africa, if necessary at the expense of the contractors.

4. That no passage-money shall be payable till 21 days after an account, setting forth the full particulars of the claim, shall have been left with the said Commissioners, together with the following documents, viz.:—

1st. A list of the passengers embarked, distinguishing between interpreters and liberated Africans, and stating with regard to liberated Africans which of them are above 10 years of age, whether they belong to the class on whom the fixed rate of 5 *l.* 10 *s.* per adult is to be payable under Article XII., and if not, the number of days in respect of which maintenance-money is chargeable against the contractors; which list is to be in the form contained in the annexed schedule, marked C, and is to be certified by the Governor and emigration agent of the colony from which the ship proceeds.

2d. A statement, signed by the immigration agent at the port of disembarkation, or officer acting in that capacity, and specifying which of such persons were landed alive, and how many were sent to the hospital or other receptacle for sick persons, and further stating, that in all material respects the service appeared to him to have been performed in conformity with the conditions of this agreement.

5. That the above-mentioned list of passengers shall be conclusive evidence as to the number of days for which the contractors are to be charged with maintenance-money.

Art. XI. That if, at the termination of the contract, any Africans shall still be remaining under Government superintendence, who within the three preceding weeks shall not have had an opportunity of emigrating, the contractors shall pay the Commissioners the amount of maintenance-money which would have been payable on every such African, if such African had been embarked in the contractors' vessels on the day of such termination.

Art. XII. Provided always, that if, during the period for which maintenance-money is payable, the contractors shall have twice offered to any African an opportunity of embarking in their ships for the West Indies, such offers being made at an interval of not less than 28 days, to be computed from the clearance of one ship to the clearance of the other ship; and if such African, from sickness or from any other cause, shall have refused to receive, or shall not have been selected by the emigration officer for receiving such passage, and if the said ship, after staying six days in the port of embarkation, shall by such refusal or non-selection have been obliged to leave the said port with less than her legal complement of emigrants, the contractors shall thereupon be discharged from all forfeit or maintenance-money in respect of such African. Provided, nevertheless, that the emigration officer may at any time afterwards place such Africans on board any ship furnished by the contractors for this service, to be conveyed to the West Indies, at the rate of 5 *l.* 10 *s.* per adult.

Art. XIII. That the master of any such ship may refuse to receive on board any emigrant whom he may consider unfitted by the state of his health for immediate conveyance to the West Indies; but in that case the contractors shall remain subject to all deductions and forfeitures provided for by this agreement in respect of the Africans so refused; and in computing the numbers of emigrants placed on board for the purposes of Art. XII., the Africans so refused shall be considered to have been placed on board.

Art. XIV. That if at any time the Governor of Sierra Leone or St. Helena shall report to the Secretary of State, either that during the preceding two months no suitable ship has been tendered by the contractors for the conveyance of liberated Africans, and that there are, at the date of his report, not less than 200 liberated Africans under Government superintendence, or that no such ship has been so tendered during the then preceding three months, it shall be competent to the said Commissioners to enforce the performance of this contract, or, in case the delay should not be explained to the satisfaction of the said Commisioners, to treat the contract as at an end in respect of the place from which such report shall arrive, and in the latter case the contraotors shall thereupon forfeit to the said Commissioners, as liquidated damages, the sum of 1,500 *l.*, in case the contract shall be terminated in respect of St. Helena, and half that sum in case it shall have been terminated in respect of Sierra Leone.

Art. XV. That the contractors shall convey to Sierra Leone any Africans who shall be placed on board of any of their ships, bound to that port, by authority of the governor of any West Indian colony to which they may have conveyed Africans, at the rate of 4 *l.* 10 *s.* per adult.

Art. XVI. That the contractors shall convey to any West Indian colony to which any of their ships may be bound, any person who may be placed on board by authority of the governor of Sierra Leone or St. Helena, at the rate of 5 *l.* per adult.

Art. XVII. That all persons embarked by virtue of the two preceding articles shall be treated and victualled as hereinbefore provided, with regard to liberated Africans, and that the passage money payable on such persons shall be paid from colonial funds; and if paid through the said Commissioners, after production to the said Commissioners of an account setting forth the particulars of the claim, together with certificates that such persons were placed on board by authority of the governor of the colony from which they were embarked, and after being properly treated on the voyage, were landed alive at the port of their destination, such certificate to be signed by the emigration or immigration officer at such respective ports.

Art. XVIII. That the contractors shall deliver to the emigration agent at the port of embarkation a receipt for all Government stores, whether clothing or otherwise, which shall be placed on board for the use of the emigrants, and shall pay to the said Commissioners the value of all such stores as shall not be certified by a Government officer at the port of debarkation to have been either accounted for to his satisfaction, or delivered up at the end of the voyage.

Art. XIX. That the contractors shall not be entitled to claim compensation for any detention of their ships which may take place at Sierra Leone or St. Helena, in order to secure the health, safety, or well being of the Africans on board; but if any detention in the West Indies shall take place by authority of the Government, not having been rendered necessary by any act or default of the contractors or of any person employed by them, then for every day of such detention, not exceeding eight days (which shall in all cases be allowed, if necessary, for the disembarkation of the emigrants), the said Commissioners shall pay demurrage at the rate of 4½ *d.* per ton register per diem, and victualling money at the rate of 6 *d.* per head per diem for every African victualled on board.

In witness whereof the above-named parties have hereunto set their hands respectively the day and year first above written.

S. Walcott.
John Hodge.

Signed by the said Stephen Walcott and the said John Hodge, in the presence of

(signed) *George M. Butler.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Victualling Scale for African Ships.

Women to receive the same ration as men, and children between the age of one and ten to receive half a ration.

	Per Day.
Biscuit	8 oz.
Rice	10 oz.
Pork, Salt and Jerked Beef (To be issued—the beef three times a week, the pork four times a week.)	6 oz.
Lime Juice	½ oz.
Sugar	2 oz.
Water	1 gal.

	Per Week
Peas	¼ pint
Vinegar	½ pint
Palm Oil	1½ gill
Salt	2 oz.
African Pepper	2 oz.

N.B.—Yams or cassada, or farinha, may be substituted for rice to a limited extent, in proportions to be fixed by the Emigration Officer at the port of embarkation. The jerked beef is to be issued alternately with the salt beef.

SCHEDULE (B.)

Articles required for the use of the Africans on the Voyage to the West Indies.

One kit, one wooden platter, one mess bread basket, one hawse bucket, for each mess of six persons.

A new mat (to serve as a bed) for each person, with sufficient knives, spoons, tin drinking mugs, &c. for the numbers embarked, and such a number of blankets as shall be deemed necessary by the emigration agent at the port of embarkation.

N.B.—All the articles comprised in this schedule to remain the property of the contractors.

Medical Comforts for every 100 Passengers.

- 50 lbs. of arrowroot.
- 28 lbs. of sago.
- 10 lbs. of preserved boiled mutton, in 1 lb. tins.
- 10 lbs. of preserved boiled beef, in 1 lb. tins.
- 100 pints of lemon juice.
- 100 lbs. of sugar.
- 18 bottles of port wine.
- 10 gallons of rum.
- 3 gallons of vinegar.
- ½ cwt. of marine soap.
- 6 quarts of Sir W. Burnett's chloride of zinc.
- 25 lbs. of chloride of lime.

SCHEDULE (C.)

AFRICAN PASSENGERS' LIST.

List of liberated Africans embarked for in the ship which cleared from on the day of 18 .

I certify that the particulars contained in the subjoined list of liberated Africans, embarked in the above-named ship, being in number , are correct.

(signed) Emigration Agent.
(countersigned) Governor.

N.B.—It is incumbent on the master of the vessel to procure the signatures of the Governor and the Emigration Agent at Sierra Leone or St. Helena (as the case may be) to this list, which is to be sent in with the account for passage money.

No.	Name.	Adults above 10*		Children under 10*		Date of Adjudication.†	Date of Embarkation.†	No. of Days under Government Superintendence.†	Remarks.
		M.	F.	M.	F.				
	Total - - -								

* The columns marked (*) should be totalled at the bottom of the page, and the totals carried on.

† When the African is an interpreter, or is to be taken to the West Indies at the fixed price of 5*l.* 10*s.*, write across the columns marked † "Interpreter," or "fixed price," as the case may be.

— No. 18. —

(No. 6.

No. 18.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Lieut. Governor Walker.

Copy of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 5 March 1858.

I transmit to you for your information and guidance a copy of a letter from Governor Wodehouse, proposing that Mr. Austin, the Emigration Agent of British Guiana, should be sent to China to collect information respecting emigration to the West Indies, together with a copy of the answer returned to Governor Wodehouse.

Enclosure 1, January 1858.
Enclosure 2, 25 February 1858.

(signed) *Stanley*.

Enclosure 1, in No. 18.

Encl. 1, in No. 18.

15, Queen-street, May Fair,
22 January 1858

Sir,

I am induced by the urgent representations of persons interested in estates in British Guiana, of the difficulties in which they are placed by the scarcity of labour, and by my own conviction of the necessity for a continuous and abundant supply of immigrants, to submit to you very respectfully a proposal from which, at the present juncture, it is possible that we may derive some benefit.

In the very voluminous correspondence respecting Chinese emigration, three points have, I think, come prominently under discussion, viz.:—

1. The diplomatic objections to negotiation with the Chinese Government on the subject.

2. The restriction of emigration for the benefit of the West Indian colonies to the port of Hong Kong. A restriction which, it is urged, is almost equivalent to a prohibition.

3. The possibility of obtaining a number of females sufficient to render Chinese immigration in itself desirable.

And upon all of these points such opposite opinions have been expressed as to render it, I believe, very difficult for Her Majesty's Government to come to any satisfactory conclusion.

It seems, therefore, very desirable, at a time when the British Envoy to China is likely to enter into negotiations affecting all our relations with that empire, that there should be on the spot some person selected by the Government, whose special business it should be to collect information, and to submit for approval, through Lord Elgin, such a scheme as should appear to him best calculated to establish a sound system of emigration to the West Indies. And in order to render his mission really useful, the British authorities in China should be informed of the earnest desire of the Home Government for its success, and should be instructed to render all the assistance in their power to the person to be selected for it.

I am not without hope that in the event of this proposal meeting with your approval, it would be found practicable to induce the Legislature of British Guiana to provide the necessary funds; and I would take the liberty of recommending for the service Mr. J. Gardiner Austin, the Immigration Agent General, at present Acting Government Secretary of the

BRITISH GUIANA.

Colony. In the former capacity, Mr. Austin has become known to the officers of the Colonial Department connected with emigration business, and has earned the approval of different Secretaries of State. He is thoroughly acquainted with the condition and wants of the colony and the position of the immigrants, and his employment on this service would, I think, be viewed with satisfaction by the proprietary body.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

To the Right Hon. H. Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 2, in No. 18.

Enclosure 2 in No. 18.

Sir, Downing-street, 25 February 1858.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Labouchere to acknowledge your letter of the 22d ult., proposing that the immigration agent of British Guiana, Mr. Austin, should be sent to China in order to collect information respecting emigration from that country to the West Indies.

Mr. Labouchere desires me to state that he will be quite ready to assent to the arrangement, if the Legislature of British Guiana approve of it, and the Combined Court shall be willing to provide the funds.

I am, &c.
(signed) *C. Fortescue.*

P. E. Wodehouse, Esq.

— No. 19. —

No. 19.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Lieut. Governor Walker.
29 March 1858.

(No. 13.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 March 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 23d January last, No. 11,* transmitting an Ordinance passed by yourself and the Court of Policy for regulating the introduction of immigrants into British Guiana from Bombay on private account.

* P. 17.

I transmit to you for your own consideration, and for that of the Court of Policy, an extract of a Report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners containing their observations on the provisions of this Ordinance.

6 March 1858.

As you state that the amount of deduction, namely, $ 24, to be made from the gratuities allowed to the master and surgeon for each immigrant dying on the passage or landed in a state unfit for work through sickness, will, in your opinion, make them very reluctant to undertake the charge of immigrants, I shall not object to the amount of the deduction being reduced to $ 15.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

Lieutenant Governor Walker,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 19.

Enclosure in No. 19.

Sir, Emigration Office, 6 March 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 22d ultimo, enclosing the authenticated copy of an Ordinance passed by the Legislature of British Guiana, intituled—

"No. 2 of 1858, an Ordinance to regulate the introduction of Immigrants from Bombay on private account."

Emigration Commissioners' Reports, 22 November 1855, 9 March 1856, 10 October 1856, 5 February 1857, 28 July 1857, December 1857.

2. The circumstances out of which this Ordinance has arisen will be found stated in our reports, noted in the margin, especially those of the 10th of October 1856, and 5th of February 1857; a brief recapitulation, however, may be found convenient.

3. In the autumn of 1855, some gentlemen interested in British Guiana expressed a desire that means should be devised for enabling planters (under the terms of a then recent Ordinance) to import coolies from the East Indies on their own account. It appeared to us that abuses in the collection and shipment of emigrants might be sufficiently guarded against by the appointment of efficient officers with adequate powers to supervise the emigration at the ports of embarkation and arrival; but we thought (on grounds stated in our reports) that such a system of private collection and shipment could not be carried on, side by side with the Government emigration, without the greatest inconvenience; and the officers who at present conduct the emigration at Calcutta and Madras were of the same opinion. We therefore suggested that the experiment should be tried at Bombay.

4. But

4. But the Court of Directors having positively objected to sanction any collection of emigrants in British India, except through the agency of a Government officer, a fresh proposal was made on the part of British Guiana, viz., that the emigrants should be collected by a Government officer, but carried to the West Indies in ships chartered by private individuals and under contract to serve on the estates of those individuals for the period allowed by law, *i. e.*, for a period of three years, to be extended under certain circumstances to five.

5. Under Mr. Labouchere's directions a set of regulations calculated to give effect to this plan were framed by this Board and referred to India. By the Government of Bombay the proposal was negatived, principally on the ground that emigration was not needed from that Presidency; but the Government of India, being of opinion that Indians ought not to be precluded by the Act of Government from availing themselves of a chance of bettering their condition, overruled this decision and approved the proposed regulations, subject to certain observations to which we shall presently refer, and which were, we believe, transmitted to British Guiana.

6. The authorities of British Guiana, meanwhile, requested that certain alterations might be made in the plan which (with certain modifications proposed by this Board) were acceded to by the Court of Directors and the Secretary of State.

7. The substance of the rules as so altered was as follows:—

1st. An emigration agent was to be appointed by the Secretary of State to collect the emigrants and to maintain them in Bombay till embarkation.

2d. Owners of estates were to be licensed by the Governor (at his discretion) to import the immigrants so collected, and to employ them on their own property, having first entered into a bond, under a penalty of 2,000*l.*, conditioned for the observance of various rules calculated to protect the emigrants during the voyage, and for payment of all expenses incurred in collecting and maintaining the emigrants for whom the licensees might fail to provide shipping.

3d. On this the Governor was to order the agent to collect the emigrants, and to communicate to the Court of Directors the proposed form of contract, which was annexed to the resolutions.

4th. A protector appointed by the Indian Government was to have full liberty to inspect the proceedings of the emigration agent, and no emigrant ship was to leave Bombay without his authority. He was to ascertain that the emigrants understood what they were about, and that the ship was in all respects fit for the service, properly found, fitted, and not over crowded.

5th. The Colonial Immigration Agent was to board the ship on its arrival, and if he found that the immigrants had not been treated according to the terms of the license, the Governor was to have the power of putting the bond in suit.

6th. The emigration agent was to be remunerated by a fee of three rupees a head on every emigrant brought to Bombay for shipment.

7th. The Colony was to pay the surgeon and master a gratuity of one dollar a head, subject to a deduction of 25 dollars a head for every immigrant who should die on the voyage or who landed unfit for work by sickness.

8. These regulations are all incorporated in the Ordinance, which adds a provision (sec. 13) that the employment of all these immigrants shall be regulated by the laws in force respecting other immigrants from the East Indies.

9. In reporting on this law it will be convenient first to treat of the requirements of the Indian Government; secondly, to point out such defects as have occurred to us in perusing the law; and lastly, to examine certain objections urged against it by some of those who have passed it.

10. The Government of India, in their Despatch No. 26 of March 1857, paragraph 13, state that they attach much weight to the following conditions:

1st. The form of contract is to be approved by the Government of India, and is to contain (para. 15) an express provision that the employer is to provide "comfortable accommodation, and a suitable hospital, and medical attendance in case of sickness."

The Ordinance does not completely meet this requirement of the Indian Government. It is true that clause 13 of the present Ordinance renders applicable to these immigrants clause 47 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1854,* which requires employers to provide on their estates hospitals, medicines, and a medical practitioner; but it is not expressly required by the law that these should be furnished to the immigrants gratuitously.

This was probably intended; but no doubt it should be expressly provided for by the law or by the form of contract, except perhaps (if it is worth while to make the exception) where the immigrant's illness was certified by some Government officer to have arisen from his own improper conduct. The proposed contract is in the form authorised in respect of other immigrants (Ordinance No. 7 of 1854, schedule B).

2d. The immigrants are to be bound on the plantations of their employers.

This is sufficiently provided for (section 2).

3d. They are not to be employed on estates which, from climate or otherwise, are unfit for their reception.

This is left to the discretion of the Governor, who will, of course, be instructed not to issue a licence to the proprietors of any such estate.

* *Vide* Papers presented Aug. 1857, p. 418.

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4th. The protection afforded by law to Government emigrants should be extended to the Bombay coolies.

This is done by section 13 of the Ordinance.

5th. Back passages should be guaranteed by Government to coolies who are rendered permanently unfit for service by accident or sickness, or who have completed their industrial residence.

This, it appears to us, should have been explicitly clear in the body of the Ordinance. The inference from the terms of the contract would rather be that the importer was to furnish the return passage.

11. The only defect in the Ordinance which we have ourselves noticed, is the following:

The payment of the emigration agent by a fee per head is contrary (as stated in our report of the 8th of December 1857, para. 16) to the provisions of the Indian law (XXI. of 1844, sched., sec. 2), which requires that he should be paid by a fixed salary. We regret that this objection escaped our notice in reviewing the "Regulations" adopted by the Court of Policy; and as some legislation in India appears necessary on this subject, we cannot refrain from repeating our suggestion that this prohibition may be reconsidered.

The real object of this rule appears to be to deprive the emigration agent of any inducement to resort to fraudulent or violent methods of collection; but as the rule is not, and, we imagine, could not be applied to the native recruiters, from whom abuses are chiefly, or rather exclusively, to be apprehended, the imposition of such a restriction on the dealings between the colony and its chief agent appears to us to involve useless inconvenience. We would submit that the real check on such malpractices is in the character of the Government emigration agent, and the supervision of the protector appointed by the Indian Government.

12. Lastly, we have to notice the objections to the Ordinance raised by those who have passed it, the planters of British Guiana:

1st. They consider that the importers of coolies should be at liberty to employ their own native agents or collectors, subject to the superintendence of the Government emigration agent and the protector.

This does not appear to us to present any practical difficulty. The object of Government is that one of its own officers shall have exclusive control over the collection of emigrants, and therefore shall be entirely responsible for its proper conduct. It is quite consistent with this object that he should be left at liberty to employ any native or European recommended to him on the part of any importer to collect for the person recommending him. This method of collection is, in fact, very largely and successfully practised in the Mauritius emigration, and it appears to us that it would entirely answer the purpose of the British Guiana colonists. It must, however, be clearly understood that the Government agent has entire discretion in refusing the services of any recruiter tendered to him, in prescribing rules for his conduct, and in dismissing him if in any degree dissatisfied with his proceedings, or if the convenience of the service requires it.

2d. There is no sufficient check upon the expenses of collecting and maintaining the emigrants.

It is, we imagine, entirely open to the colonists to devise and impose such a check. If injudiciously stringent, they will themselves be the principal sufferers from it, and it is not therefore probable that the Secretary of State would object to any reasonable provision which they might desire to adopt with this object.

3d. It is considered that the chance of a gratuity, which is held out to masters and surgeons of immigrant ships, will render them "very reluctant to undertake the charge of immigrants to this colony."

This observation must arise from some misapprehension. The master and surgeon of an emigrant ship are supposed to be adequately paid by the importer, and it is no part of the object of Government to relieve him from the expense of that payment; but, in order to give his officers a direct interest in the care of the emigrants, they are to receive a small gratuity (one dollar) on each emigrant landed alive, subject to a large deduction (25 dollars) on every adult emigrant who may die on the voyage. The result would be that, in the case of a ship containing 300 emigrants, and reaching Guiana without any mortality, the master and surgeon would receive gratuities of 300 dollars, or about 60 guineas, each; as the mortality increased their gratuities would rapidly diminish, and would be altogether lost if the deaths of adult passengers on board reached the number of 15. In no case, of course, would the officers be subject to any penalty; and if it appeared that, though the mortality was large, they had exerted themselves to the utmost in order to arrest it, the Governor would probably waive all or part of the deduction from the gratuity.

The advantage thus given to the officers is not given as a boon either to themselves or their employers, but to secure, as far as possible, the careful treatment of the immigrants; and it cannot be just matter of complaint that the gift is subject to those conditions which are best calculated to ensure the only object with which it is promised.

The original proposal was that the surgeon should receive a dollar for every person, not landed, but placed on board, subject to a deduction of 25 dollars for every person, not "adult immigrant," who died on board or was landed unfit for work. The latter of these alterations is of some importance to the officers, as the greatest mortality is usually among the children; but as the principle of the deductions is maintained, it is, perhaps, unnecessary to object to this alteration of detail. It should, however, be provided that the gratuity should not be payable unless the officers had discharged their duties to the satisfaction of the Government.

Lastly,

Lastly, it is desired that the importers ought to be entitled to the services of the coolies imported for five years certain, instead of the terminable engagements at present authorised by law.

It is, however, plain, that there is no reason for treating the Bombay emigration exceptionally in this respect. If the longer engagement would not be a serious disadvantage to the immigrants, it ought to be conceded in all cases; if it is such a disadvantage, it ought not to be allowed to private importers rather than to the Colonial Government, but rather the contrary.

We think, however, that the private importers of labour might properly be allowed the benefit of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1857, and thus enabled to receive from those to whom their immigrants may transfer their services a rateable proportion of the cost of introduction.

13. In case Lord Stanley should concur in the above views, the following defects in the law should be removed:—

Clause 8. The licensee's bond should contain a condition that no ship employed by him should clear from Bombay with emigrants without a written authority from the protector, and that the failure to produce such written authority should be *primâ facie* evidence of his not having obtained it.

Clause 9 should appoint, or leave the Governor or Secretary of State at liberty to appoint, a salary for the emigration agent; unless it is preferred that the Ordinance should remain inoperative till the proposal to alter the Indian law shall have been submitted to the Court of Directors.

Clause 11. The master and surgeon should not be entitled to gratuities unless they have performed their duties to the satisfaction of the colonial authorities; and the Governor might (if the Court of Policy should think fit), be expressly empowered to waive the deduction where the officers had plainly performed their duties well.

14. Express provision should be made for giving back-passages at the expense of the Government, in case of incapacity for work or completion of the industrial residence.

15. The contract should contain an express provision for furnishing gratuitously hospital accommodation, medical treatment; and, lastly, the colonists might, if they desired it, add any proper provisions for limiting or controlling the expense of collection or for extending to private importers of immigrants the benefit of the 4th section of Ordinance No. 1 of 1857.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 20.

(No. 15.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Wodehouse*.

No. 20. Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Wodehouse. 1 April 1858.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 April 1858.

WITH reference to the communication which took place with you immediately before your departure, I have duly considered the wish which you brought under my notice of some gentlemen connected with Guiana to try for themselves the practicability of procuring suitable Chinese immigrants to be introduced into the colony at their own expense.

There is nothing, it appears, in the present state of the law to prevent any private persons from procuring Chinese immigrants and conveying them to the colony at their own cost, provided that they duly fulfil the requirements of the Act of Parliament styled the Chinese Passengers' Act,* by which ample security is provided for the safety, health, and comfort of the emigrants during their voyage. But of course no persons would wish to go to this expense unless the labourers are under valid engagements to work for them for a certain period after arrival, nor, as is generally believed, will Chinamen themselves emigrate unless employment is secured to them by some such engagements. Now the difficulty which arises is that whilst the body of law regulating in Guiana the mutual rights and obligations of employers and immigrants is comprised in the Ordinance No. 7 of 1854, the 62d or interpretation clause of that Ordinance restricts the term "Immigrants" to persons introduced at the public expense. The immigration of Chinese into the West Indies is already authorised both by Imperial and Colonial law; the enactments by which that immigration is regulated, so far as the voyage is concerned, will remain unchanged; no alteration is sought in the nature of the contracts which have already been allowed in the West India colonies; all which the promoters of the scheme ask is, that they

* 18 & 19 Vict. c. 104.

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they may not, by importing labourers at their own expense, be excluded from the operation of those rules which have so long and so repeatedly been sanctioned as fit to govern the relations between immigrants and their employers.

I think that I cannot err in assenting to so reasonable a request. Where there is no well-founded objection on the ground of security to the immigrant, I am glad to be able to offer to the producers in the West Indies every fair opportunity of endeavouring for themselves to supply the general want of labour.

I do not attach to the concession now offered any positive stipulation as to the number of females to be included among the proposed immigrants, because the measure is an experiment which could not be tried if the persons who are to enter into expensive contracts for the engagement of shipping were subjected to a restriction which, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, might operate as a complete prohibition of their undertaking, and thus cause them to forfeit their whole outlay. I have taken this course in the firm belief that the importers themselves, whose success in this particular will be conducive both to their own advantage and to the general interest of the colony, will spare no endeavour to obtain a suitable proportion of females. Considering, however, that no immigration could be allowed to become permanent without this essential condition, and, moreover, that by next year a report on the general question of a supply of labour from China may be expected from Mr. Austin, who is to be employed on the spot in investigating that subject, I propose to restrict the duration of the measure to one year.

It appeared to be the opinion both of yourself and of the Emigration Commissioners in examining the question, that if this project were tried it would be desirable to bring into one Ordinance all the legal enactments affecting Chinese immigrants. The Emigration Commissioners have accordingly prepared the enclosed draft of an Ordinance to accomplish that purpose. I send it to you because if the Legislature should think proper to adopt the plan and to give it the sanction of their authority, I have thought that it might not be unacceptable to them to see in the most definite shape the proposals which it is wished to submit to them, and to which you will have authority to assent on the part of the Government.

Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

Encl. in No. 20.

Enclosure in No. 20.

DRAFT of an ORDINANCE for the Encouragement of Immigration into *British Guiana* from *China*.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for the introduction into this colony of Chinese labourers, at the expense wholly or in part of private parties, be it enacted, &c. as follows:

1. The 14th section of the Ordinance No. 7 of 1854 is hereby repealed.

2. Upon the arrival in the colony of any ship having Chinese labourers on board, the Immigration Agent General shall, with the Health Officer of the port, forthwith proceed on board of such vessel, and with the assistance of such officer shall ascertain by personal inspection of the vessel, and of the passengers therein, and of the emigration papers furnished to the master of the said vessel, in pursuance of the "Chinese Passengers' Act of 1855," whether the provisions of the said Act have been complied with or not, and shall report to the Governor of the colony respecting the state of such vessel, and the treatment of the passengers therein, and whether there appear to be any grounds for proceeding against the said vessel or the master thereof, under the provisions of the said Act, and respecting all other such matters as the Governor may direct.

3. All written contracts for the performance of any labour or service of agriculture in this colony which shall be made with any Chinese labourer, male or female, who shall have left China or Hong Kong for this colony, between the passing of this Ordinance and the 1st day of April next ensuing, shall be binding on the parties thereto for the period named therein, not exceeding the period of five years, to be computed from the day of the landing of such labourer in British Guiana, provided that every such contract shall be signed with the names or marks of the contracting parties, or of persons lawfully acting on their behalf, and shall be attested by the emigration officer at the port of embarkation, who shall declare that the labourer, party to such contract, signed the same voluntarily, and with a due understanding of its effect. Provided also, that every such contract shall conform to the following conditions, namely:

4. 1st. Every such contract shall secure to the labourer making the same, the right to receive in lieu of any fixed wages specified therein, the rate of wages which may from time to time be paid to unindentured labourers working on the estate on which he shall be employed.

2d. Every

2d. Every such contract shall bind the employer to furnish to the labourer free of charge suitable lodging, and when sick, suitable and sufficient medicines, medical attendance, and hospital accommodation.

3d. Every such contract may be terminated, by the labourer party thereto, at the expiration of the third year thereof, on payment to the Immigration Agent General of 50 dollars, or at the expiration of the fourth year thereof, on payment of 25 dollars.

4th. Every such contract may bind the labourer to repay to his employer at such rate, not exceeding 1 dollar a month, as may be determined by the Governor and Court of Policy; such specified sum, not exceeding 12 dollars, as may have been advanced to him before leaving China.

5. Every such contract shall on the arrival of the labourer be submitted to the Immigration Agent General, who shall and may make such alterations therein for the benefit of the labourer as he shall judge necessary to make the same conformable to the above conditions, and shall thereupon record and countersign the same, and no such contract or altered contract shall be binding on any labourer till so countersigned.

6. Such contracts may be made in the form contained in the annexed schedule, and at their expiration may be renewed for a period not exceeding three years.

7. Every such contract, or renewed contract, shall be deemed to be an indenture, and during the currency of the same every Chinese labourer shall be deemed to be an immigrant within the meaning of the following sections of the Ordinance No. 7 of 1854, namely, the 10th and 11th sections; from the 22d to the 33d inclusive; from the 35th to the 42d sections inclusive; the 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 49th, and 50th sections; from the 57th to the 61st sections inclusive.

If it shall be established before any two justices of the peace on complaint preferred by any Chinese labourer, that such labourer is not provided by his employer with sufficient work to enable him to earn a just amount of wages under the terms of any such contract as aforesaid, such justices shall declare his contract to be cancelled, and thereupon it shall be lawful for the Governor to cause such labourer to be indentured to some other employer on the terms as near as may be of the said contract, for a period not exceeding the unexpired period of his term of service.

All sums received by the Immigration Agent General from any Chinese labourer in virtue of the 3d article of the 4th section of this Ordinance, shall be paid over by him to the person who may have defrayed the expense of introducing such labourer, subject, nevertheless, to a rateable deduction in case the Government shall have paid any part of the expense.

The words "Governor," "Immigration Agent General," "written contract," "plantation," and "employer," where used in this Ordinance, or in the annexed schedule, shall bear the meanings assigned to them in the 62d section of the Ordinance No. 7 of 1854.

SCHEDULE—Section 6.

IT is agreed between A. B., Chinese labourer, and C. D., acting on behalf of E. F. proprietor of the plantation[s] X. [and Z.] in the colony of British Guiana, that A. B. shall serve the said E. F. on [one of] the said plantation[s] in the growing or manufacturing of articles the produce of such plantation, for the term of five years from the day on which A. B. shall land in British Guiana, provided always that it shall be lawful for A. B. to terminate the said agreement at the expiration of three years, on payment of the sum of 50 dollars, or at the end of four years on payment of the sum of 25 dollars; and it is further agreed that E. F. shall pay to A. B. the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under contract or indenture working on the same plantation, not being less than at the rate of a day (which wages shall be paid on the last day of every week), and that E. F. shall supply A. B. free of cost, with suitable lodging, and with such medicines and medical attendance, and hospital accommodation, as A. B. may need when sick. And it is further agreed, that if the said plantation shall come into the possession of any other person than the said E. F., A. B. shall be bound to serve such other person if required to do so, on the same plantation, and on the above terms.

And it is further agreed, that E. F. may deduct from the wages of A. B. at the rate of 1 dollar a month, the total sum of [not more than 12] dollars which A. B. acknowledges himself to have received in advance before leaving China.

— No. 21. —

(No. 27.)

No. 21. Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Lieut. Governor Walker. 3 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 3 May 1858.

WITH reference to my Despatch No. 15 * of the 1st ultimo, transmitting draft of an Ordinance for the introduction by private parties of Chinese immigrants into

* P. 147.

BRITISH GUIANA.

British Guiana, I have to acquaint you that instructions have been issued by the Earl of Malmesbury for the appointment of Her Majesty's Consular Officers at the five ports in China to be Emigration Agents.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 22. —

No. 22. Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Lieut. Governor Walker. 3 May 1858.

(No. 28.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 3 May 1858.

I TRANSMIT for your information a copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, stating the number of vessels which have already been despatched to the West Indies during the present year, together with two letters from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting the despatch of the ships "Cambodia" and "Clarendon" to British Guiana with coolie immigrants.

Enclosure, 21 April 1858.
Enclosure, " February 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

Encl. in No. 22.

Enclosure in No. 22.

Sir, Emigration Office, 21 April 1858.

Sub-Enclosure 1. WE enclose for Lord Stanley's information, and for transmission to the Governor of British Guiana, copies of two letters which we have received from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, in which he reports the departure of the ships "Cambodia" and "Clarendon" (a screw steamer) with 343 and 421 souls respectively for that colony.

Sub-Enclosure 2. 2. We also enclose for transmission to the Lieutenant Governor of Grenada the copy of a further letter from Mr. Eales, reporting the departure of the "Fulwood" with 402 coolies on board for that colony.

Sub-Enclosure 3. 3. By the same mail which brought these letters we have received duplicate copies of those lost in the "Ava," announcing the chartering of the above ships. This will account for the apparent delay in communicating the above results to the West Indian Colonies.

4. It will be observed that the news received within the last few days make a most material difference in the character of the year's emigration, raising the number of ships to be despatched from four to seven.

Previously reported.

Ship.	Colony.	Souls on Board.
Wellesley - - -	Trinidad - - -	421
Ellenborough - - -	" - - - -	414
Bucephalus - - -	British Guiana - -	396
Cambodia - - -	" - - -	343
		1,574

Reported by last two mails.

Clarendon - - -	British Guiana - -	421
Saladin - - - -	Trinidad - - -	386
Salsette - - - -	" not yet despatched, say	350
Fulwood - - - -	Grenada - - -	402
		1,559
		1,574
	TOTAL - - - -	3,133

5. We have also reason to suppose, as Lord Stanley is aware, that the "White Eagle" was despatched from Madras to British Guiana with coolies. If this is the case, four ships will have been despatched to British Guiana, four to Trinidad, and one to Grenada during the season. Emigration to St. Lucia appears not to be yet permitted.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch,*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 22.

Sir,

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
2 February 1858.

I HAVE the honour to state for the information of the Emigration Commissioners having despatched the ship "Cambodia" to Demerara with the undermentioned number of emigrants.

2. Copy of a charterparty, together with the surgeon's certificate of health, of the above vessel, is herewith enclosed; 156 males, 120 females, 24 boys, 24 girls, 19 infants, despatched on 31 January 1858.

Ship "Cambodia."

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
9 January 1858.

Sir,

I HEREBY appoint you to be surgeon superintendent of the ship "Cambodia," which vessel is expected to sail about the 31st instant with coolies for British Guiana.

2. You will be so good as to call at my office on the 30th instant, for the purpose of thoroughly examining each individual prior to going on board, and also to inspect the medicines and see that they are of good quality.

3. A copy of the instructions for your guidance to which it will be your duty strictly to attend, will be handed to you on your taking charge of the emigrants.

4. Your remuneration will consist of a free cabin passage (with diet at the captain's table) from Calcutta to British Guiana, and from thence to England; secondly, of a gratuity of (4) four rupees for each coolie landed alive in the West Indies, provided you discharge your duties to the satisfaction of the Government authorities in British Guiana.

5. In addition to the above you will receive the sum of (60 *l.*) sixty pounds payable here to defray your expenses back to India. Also an advance of rupees (200) two hundred, to be deducted from your gratuity payable in Demerara.

I am, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird,*
Emigration Agent.

To R. Rivers, Esq.

RECEIVED from the Emigration Agent the sum of 600 rupees on account of my passage money from Europe to India. Also an advance of 200 rupees which is to be deducted from my gratuity payable in Demerara.

(signed). *R. Rivers,*
Surgeon Superintendent of Ship Cambodia."

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 22.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
7 March 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having this day despatched the screw steamship "Clarendon" to Demerara, with the undermentioned number of emigrants.

Copy of a charterparty, together with the surgeon's certificate of health of the above vessel, is herewith enclosed.

175 males, 139 females, 36 boys, 37 girls, and 34 infants.

S. S. Ship "Clarendon."

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.

Sir,

I HEREBY appoint you to be surgeon superintendent of the screw steamship "Clarendon," which vessel is expected to sail about the 2d proximo with coolies for British Guiana.

2. You will be so good as to call at my office on the 1st proximo for the purpose of thoroughly examining each individual prior to going on board, and also to inspect the medicines and see that they are of good quality.

 3. A copy

BRITISH GUIANA.

3. A copy of the instructions for your guidance, to which it will be your duty to attend, will be handed to you on your taking charge of the emigrants.

4. Your remuneration will consist of a free cabin passage (with diet at the captain's table) from Calcutta to British Guiana, and from thence to England. Secondly, of a gratuity of 4 (four) rupees for each coolie landed alive in the West Indies, provided you discharge your duties to the satisfaction of the Government authorities in British Guiana.

The advance of rupees (200) two hundred made to you in Calcutta will be deducted from your gratuity, which is payable in British Guiana.

I am, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

To J. C. A. Reid, Esq.

Sub-Enclosure 3, to Enclosure in No. 22.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
6 March 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having despatched the ship "Fulwood" to Grenada, with the undermentioned number of emigrants.

Copy of a charter party, together with the surgeon's certificate of health of the above vessel, is herewith enclosed.

Ship "Fulwood."

194 males, 124 females, 39 boys, 25 girls, and 20 infants, despatched on 26th February 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
11 February 1858.

Sir,

I HEREBY appoint you to be surgeon superintendent of the ship "Fulwood," which vessel is expected to sail about the 25th instant with coolies for Grenada.

2. You will be so good as to call at my office on the 24th instant, for the purpose of thoroughly examining each individual prior to going on board, and also to inspect the medicines and see that they are of good quality.

3. A copy of the instructions for your guidance, to which it will be your duty strictly to attend, will be handed to you on your taking charge of the emigrants.

4. Your remuneration will consist of a free cabin passage (with diet at the captain's table) from Calcutta to Grenada, and from thence to England; secondly, of a gratuity of 4 (four rupees) for each coolie landed alive in the West Indies, provided you discharge your duties to the satisfaction of the Government authorities in Grenada.

5. The advance of rupees (200) two hundred, made to you in Calcutta will be deducted from your gratuity, which is payable in Grenada

I am, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales.*

To H. H. Prins, Esq.

— No. 23. —

(No. 31.)

No. 23.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Lieut. Governor Walker.
13 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 13 May 1858.

I HAVE had before me your Despatch, No. 17 * of the 17th of February last, conveying some material remarks and suggestions upon the mode of conveying coolies from India.

* P. 20.

I enclose for your information the copy of a report which I have received on the subject from the Emigration Commissioners, and of the answer which I have directed to be returned to it. I have applied to the East India Board for a completion of the inquiry at Calcutta, which was requested last year, into the causes of mortality amongst emigrants from that place, and for a communication of the result to this department.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.

From the communication made by my desire to the Emigration Commissioners, you will perceive the reasons for which I have not thought that experience

rience supplies sufficient grounds as yet to justify a reduction in the space allotted by law to emigrants from Madras and Bombay to the West Indies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 23.

Sir, Emigration Office, 14 April 1858.

We have to acknowledge your letters of the 19th and 24th ultimo, enclosing respectively copies of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, reporting the arrival of the coolie ship "Wellesley," and of a Despatch from the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana respecting the mode of conveying coolies from India.

2. The "Wellesley" left Calcutta on the 12th of November, with 421 (query 420) souls on board, and arrived in Trinidad on the 28th of January. The result of the voyage is shown by the following Table:—

	Adults.		Children.		Infants.	Total.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		
Embarked at Calcutta - -	173	135	47 (Qy 46)	37	29	421 (Qy. 420)
Died on the voyage - -	8	6	3	- -	13	30
Landed alive - - - -	165	129	43	37	16	390

3. It is stated by the authorities at Trinidad that the accommodations of the ship as regards room and ventilation were excellent, and that the people met with care and attention on board. But notwithstanding, the mortality was nearly seven per cent., and the planters complain that the people are landed in a weak state. The Immigration Agent considers that this is owing to a recent change in the dietary, especially affecting nursing mothers, and through them their infants.

4. The Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana transmits a report from Dr. Shier, who has been in charge of coolies on their return to India, and of Chinese on their way to Demerara. He was in charge of the "Lord Elgin," a small ship of 353 tons, despatched from Demerara by an enterprising merchant, Mr. Booker; and this perhaps should be borne in mind in perusing his observations: this gentleman is of opinion that the great mortality which took place last season in the Indian immigration is principally due to defective ventilation. He observes, that air is generally admitted in more or less of a rush; that those exposed to this rush, naturally suffer from it, and are apt to defend themselves by tying up the mouths of windsails, and thus depriving the whole of the between-decks of their proper ventilation. He proposes, therefore, that every emigrant ship should be supplied with a small steam-engine, which should force a current of air into a system of perforated tubes, through which it should be distributed throughout the between-decks.

5. In forwarding this proposal, the Lieutenant Governor points out that the experience of the French coolie ships shows that the amount of space allowed to each emigrant in ships leaving Calcutta and Madras is unnecessarily large.

6. In reporting on these papers, it is requisite briefly to refer to the coolie emigration of last year.

7. In the season of 1856-57, 12 ships left Calcutta for the West Indies, and two Madras. The Calcutta ships carried 4,094 souls, of whom 707, being rather more than 17 per cent., died on the voyage. The Madras ships carried 910 persons, of whom nine died, being only ·98 per cent. of the number embarked. The alarming loss of life in the Calcutta emigration could not but attract immediate attention: it somewhat exceeded the mortality which prevailed in emigrant ships proceeding to British North America in the disastrous year of 1848, and which amounted to 16·33 per cent.: it was more than four times the average mortality of the Calcutta emigration during the few preceding years which was about 4·2 per cent.; and it was more than 10 times the mortality in Government ships proceeding to Australia, which was 1·22 per cent. As, however, it affected all the ships employed, did not extend to Madras, and far exceeded any previous mortality, it was to be inferred that it arose from circumstances peculiar to that year's emigration, and probably to Calcutta: and it was suggested, in a report from this office, dated the 30th of June last, that the Bengal Government should be requested to investigate the matter, and especially to inquire whether due care had been exercised in the selection of emigrants, and whether certain changes made in the dietary and fittings by the Indian authorities were judicious. We learn, from a letter from Mr. Caird, that on the 15th of October Dr. Mouatt, Inspector of Gaols and Government Dispensaries in Calcutta, was instructed to examine into the causes of the mortality. What has since taken place we are not aware, except (as we have already stated) that on the 12th November the "Wellesley" left Calcutta with 420 souls on board, and that she lost 30 persons, being about 7 per cent. of those on board, a proportion which, though far short of the lamentable mortality of last year, is considerably above the average.

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Sub-Enclosure 1.

8. It appears to us that the report of the arrival of the "Wellesley" should be communicated to the Indian Government, and that the observations of the Immigration Agent on the mortality among the infants deserve special attention. It will be seen by the annexed Table that in the season of 1856-57 the proportion of deaths was, among the adults, (*i. e.*, among those above ten years of age) one-seventh; among children between one and ten, one-third, and among infants more than half of the whole number of each class embarked. In the "Wellesley" it will be observed, that while the mortality among the adults and children has fallen to something like 4 per cent., the number of infants dying on the voyage is still nearly one-half. And this fact derives additional weight from the circumstance that the increasing female emigration, on which the Home Government insists, will of course involve an increase in the number of infants embarked.

Sub-Enclosure 2.

Sub-Enclosure 3.

9. When our attention was attracted some years since by the mortality among children on the voyage to Australia, we requested an eminent surgeon to furnish us with such an infantile dietary as could be framed out of the materials available on ship board. We enclose, in case it should be of any use to the Indian authorities, a copy of that scale (A.), and, on the chance that they may be serviceable, we shall require the owners of all ships chartered in London for the next emigration season to place on board the articles contained in the annexed list (B.), to be at the disposition of the surgeon for the use of young children and nursing mothers.

10. As the adoption of this dietary was coincident, or nearly so, with other sanitary precautions taken in our ships, it is difficult to estimate its effect; but, as far as we can judge, it appears to have been of some use.

6 March 1837, Sub-Enclosure 4.

11. With regard to the mode of ventilation suggested by Dr. Shier, we have to state that we are fully alive to the importance of the subject, and had, in fact, at the commencement of the emigration of 1856 and 1857, directed Mr. Caird to pay increased attention to this point, which (as will be seen by the enclosed letter) he had done. We also quite agree with Dr. Shier, that a great part of the difficulty of ventilation lies, not in the mere introduction, but in the distribution of the air; and we have accordingly placed in several of our Australian ships, by way of experiment, an apparatus invented by a person of the name of Dible, and framed in this respect much on the principle suggested by Dr. Shier. The authorities in British Guiana will perhaps be interested to learn that one ship so ventilated has reached Australia, and that the success is stated by the Emigration Agent at Sydney to be complete.

24 April 1857, Sub-Enclosure 5.

We enclose a copy of his observations upon it. We shall, however, await some further reports, which we have reason to expect, before taking any steps towards its general adoption. The plan, as fitted to our ships, does not require a steam-engine.

12. The question raised by Lieutenant Governor Walker respecting the number of emigrants which coolie ships can properly be allowed to carry, is one of some difficulty. In our report of the 28th May 1857, we suggested that the Madras Government should be requested to send an officer to examine into the French system, with a view to ascertain what improvements or relaxations could be made in our own. As, however, no report has yet been received, it may be advisable that we should offer to Lord Stanley such an opinion as we are ourselves able to form. The Anglo Indian rule requires that no passenger ship shall carry more persons on board than in the proportion of one person to every two tons measurement; that the height of the between decks shall be six feet; and that for every adult passenger, *i. e.* for every passenger above the age of ten, or for every two passengers below that age there shall be allowed 12 feet of superficial space in the compartment which he occupies. Every passenger, therefore, has at least 12 feet of area, six feet of height, and 72 cubical feet of volume, *i. e.* of air to breathe.

13. The French rules allow of one adult passenger for every French ton of measurement (being slightly larger than the English ton), two children between five and twelve, or three children under five years of age, counting as an adult passenger. The height between decks need not exceed five feet. There is no provision as to superficial space or volume.

14. The result probably is, that the French ships carry about double the number of emigrants allowed to embark in English ships; and it is stated by the Minister of Marine, at Paris, that the mortality among 5,868 persons despatched in the course of three or four years, in 12 ships to the West Indies, was about 2 per cent.

Reported on in our Report of 28 May 1857.

15. We have frequently stated that the Calcutta emigration is exposed to peculiar causes of mortality, and, therefore, that the results of the emigration from Pondicherry can only be fairly compared with that in the three ships which alone proceeded from the neighbouring Port of Madras during the same period. The numbers carried in these ships were 1,279, and the deaths 20, being 1·5 per cent., or about three-fourths of the French proportion. Though this difference is relatively not inconsiderable, yet the absolute mortality in the French ships is sufficiently small to indicate that the English rule may be somewhat relaxed without substantial risk to the emigrant's safety. Considering, however, the large scale on which, if at all, a change of this kind must operate, and the narrow experience (12 ships) on which it is founded—considering also that rules which are productive of no bad result in a healthy season, may terribly aggravate the disasters of an unhealthy season, a contingency which can never be left wholly out of sight, we could not recommend the adoption of a rule at all approaching in laxity to that which is adopted in French ports.

16. We think, in the first place, that the check by tonnage may be altogether dismissed. The real object is to secure to the emigrant sufficient space for respiration and motion, and this is best done by prescribing absolutely what space shall be given him.

17. The space on which a full-grown Indian must lie down (supposing no system of berthing to be adopted) would be about 10 square feet, and the height in which he could move about,

about, without much inconvenience, would probably be about 5 feet 6 inches. If these limits were adopted, the minimum cubical space allowed him would be 55 feet, a reduction of about one-fourth on the old minimum of 72. This reduction of the volume of air allowed to each passenger we should hesitate to recommend, although it is more than sanctioned by the example of the English Passenger Act, which was in force from 1835 till 1842 in respect to Europeans not passing within the tropics. We would recommend, first, that the minimum height between decks should be reduced to 5½ feet; and next, that in all ships where the average height of the space occupied by emigrants was, in the opinion of the Emigration officer, six feet or upwards, the area required should be reduced to 10 feet per adult.

18. This would enable ships eligible for the service under the present rule to carry 20 per cent. more persons than they carry at present, and would admit into the competition for employment a certain number of ships not hitherto eligible.

19. But we think, first, that the relaxation should not extend to Calcutta, where the greater liability to disease renders it necessary to allow more space and air; and next, that in case any ship should carry passengers on two decks, the superficial space allowed on the lower deck, where ventilation is more difficult, should be at least 15 feet.

20. It is for Lord Stanley's consideration whether these suggestions should be communicated to the Court of Directors for their consideration.

We have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. (signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
&c. &c. &c. *Frederic Rogers.*

P. S.—Since drafting the above report, we have received your letter of the 30th ultimo, enclosing the report of Mr. Franklin, the Emigration Agent at Madras, who has been deputed by the Governor of that Presidency to inquire into the system of management adopted in the French emigration from Pondicherry.

2. It appears that the arrangements on board of French ships are much the same as our own, from which, no doubt, they are in a great degree taken. We shall first observe on the points of difference between the two systems, and then on the conclusions at which Mr. Franklin arrives.

3. In the French emigration persons above the age of forty years are absolutely excluded. It has been constantly stated by those who collect for our West Indian colonies that it is necessary to allow the old or infirm members of families to proceed with those on whose labour they rely for support. We feel little doubt that, although this may somewhat increase the cost of the emigration and the apparent mortality, it is the most humane course.

4. Standing bed-places are erected in French ships. In fact it seems physically impossible without them that the people on board could have room to lie down all at the same time. This mode of fitting was adopted in the Calcutta ships of last season, and was supposed by the West Indian officers to have had some share in causing the mortality, by impeding ventilation. Mr. Franklin was himself formerly opposed to berths on this ground; but the success of the French emigration has led him to change his mind. In our Australian ships we are engaged in trying the experiment of fitting the ship with merely strong upright beams, to which are fitted oblong pieces of sackcloth, which can be put up during night, and during the day simply unfastened, rolled up, and put aside. This unites, to a great extent, the advantage of berthing with the free ventilation (at least during day) which is gained by the opposite system. Perhaps this plan might deserve the consideration of the Indian authorities; the slight trouble which it gives is, perhaps, rather an advantage than otherwise.

5. In the dietary, the substitution of biscuit for rice, of which the expediency has been questioned, has not been made. The scale is, in other respects, very like our own. The principal omissions are fresh meat and lime-juice. In spite of the latter omission, it is said that scurvy has never shown itself on board.

6. The French have on board a distilling apparatus: this, we have no doubt, is a great advantage, if it can be entirely relied upon. Lord Stanley is aware that we are at present about to test in some Australian ships an apparatus of this kind, with the special view of ascertaining whether it is likely to get out of order from accident or neglect. The "Sigismund Cezard," a French coolie ship, fitted with such an apparatus, was obliged some time since to put into Mauritius because it was out of order.

Vide our Report of 11 December 1856.

7. The French employ in some cases native doctors, and with good effect. Mr. Franklin observes, that East Indians, or natives, should always be appointed, "if professionally qualified." The French, however, seem to be approximating to, or rather adopting, our own system, by requiring every ship's surgeon to be a "medical officer of the second class" (letter from M. D'Ubraye, 31st December 1857), and Mr. Caird is in favour of it. We could imagine that a native doctor might prove hardly equal to the enforcement of discipline and cleanliness, of which it is impossible to overrate the importance. But where the numbers are large, it might be very useful to place on board a native medical assistant.

8. We now come to Mr. Franklin's suggestions. It will be seen that he concurs with us in recommending that the "tonnage check" should be dispensed with. But he does not recommend that the superficial allowance of space (12 feet per adult) should be reduced, and he proposes that no ship should be allowed to carry more than 450 adults, or to carry any passengers on the lower deck. Except when passengers are carried on two decks, the space check would be almost universally more stringent than that by tonnage, and, therefore, no effect in any way would be produced by dispensing with it under the conditions proposed by Mr. Franklin. It may be said, therefore, that practically he proposes

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poses no relaxation of the present legal rule. He would only extend to 450 the maximum number placed on board, which, as a matter of discretion, Mr. Caird at Calcutta finds it convenient to limit to 350 adults.

9. In the Mauritius emigration Mr. Franklin recommends that the space should be reduced to 10 superficial, instead of 72 cubical feet per adult. He does not refer to the height between decks, and we do not therefore exactly understand whether he considers that the minimum height in this emigration should be six or five and a half feet.

10. In our own opinion a relaxation analogous to that which Mr. Franklin has proposed with regard to the Mauritius emigration might properly be made with regard to the West Indies. And, on the whole, we see no safer form of relaxation than that which we have proposed in the body of this letter.

11. We apprehend that Mr. Franklin is mistaken in supposing that the Calcutta emigrants are drawn from the bazaars. Mr. Caird is fully aware that it would be inexcusable to have recourse to such a source of supply, and all his communications assume that they are country people.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure 1, in No. 23.

Return of Mortality in the Ships despatched from *Calcutta* and *Madras* to the *West Indies*, during the Season 1856-57.

	Numbers Embarked.						Born on Voyage.	Deaths on Voyage.					
	Adults.		Children.		Infants.	Total.		Adults.		Children.		Infants.	Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.		
CALCUTTA:													
Wellesley - -	254	84	13	11	20	382	1	10	6	- -	2	4	22
Bucephalus -	252	84	20	9	15	380	–	16	15	3	2	9	45
Sir R. Seppings -	197	59	13	13	9	291	–	35	12	3	3	8	61
Roman Emperor -	207	68	14	12	12	313	1	50	21	4	6	7	88
Merchantman -	239	96	18	12	20	385	–	59	27	10	8	16	120
Burmah - -	230	58	10	10	18	326	–	21	14	4	2	8	49
Adelaide -	213	62	10	8	11	304	–	7	9	- -	2	7	25
Sir G. Seymour -	238	75	21	5	15	354	–	10	8	5	2	11	36
Granville - -	154	100	25	14	16	309	1	11	13	4	5	4	37
Eveline - -	231	96	20	17	23	387	–	33	18	4	7	10	72
Scindian - -	156	81	21	14	16	288	1	19	14	10	5	12	60
Maidstone - -	268	68	18	10	11	375	–	65	16	3	4	4	92
	2,639	931	203	135	186	4,094	4	336 or 12·73 per cent.	173 or 18·58 per cent.	50 or 24·63 per cent.	48 or 35·55 per cent.	100 or 53·76 per cent.	707 or 17·26 per cent
MADRAS:													
Blue Jacket -	313	121	46	31	15	526	–	2	- -	- -	- -	2	4
Stamboul - -	230	94	31	21	8	384	1	2	3	- -	- -	- -	5
	543	215	77	52	23	910	1	4	3	- -	- -	2	9
Devonshire (1855-56)	212	91	34	19	13	369	–	1	3	1	1	5	11
	755	306	111	71	36	1,279	1	5 or ·66 per cent.	6 or 1·96 per cent.	1 or ·90 per cent.	1 or 1·39 per cent.	7 or 19·44 per cent.	20 or 1·56 per cent.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure 1, in No. 23.

DIETARY SCALE for Emigrant Ships sailing under Government Superintendence.

To be hung up in at least two conspicuous places between Decks.

This is the Scale for each person of 12 years of age and upwards. Children of 1 year and under 12 years of age, one-half of such rations. All the issues are to continue on the same days as below.

	Animal Food.					Bread Stuffs.					Preserved Vegetables.			Groceries.					Water.	WEEKLY.					
	Beef.	Pork.	Preserved Meat.	Suet.	Butter.	Biscuit.	Flour.	Oatmeal.	Peas.	Rice.	Potatoes.	Carrots, Turnips, Onions, Celery, and Mint.	Cabbage.	Raisins.	Tea.	Coffee, weight when roasted.	Sugar.	Treacle.		Mixed Pickles.	Mustard.	Lime Juice.	Salt.	Pepper, ground.
	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Pt.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.	Qts.					
Sunday	–	8	–	2	–	6	8	–	¼	–	–	⅓	–	3	¼	–	–	2	3					
Monday	–	–	8	2	2	6	8	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	½	4	2	3					
Tuesday	6	–	–	–	–	6	8	–	–	4	4	–	½	–	¼	–	–	–	3					
Wednesday	–	8	–	2	–	6	8	4	¼	–	–	–	–	3	–	½	4	2	3					
Thursday	8	–	–	–	2	6	8	–	–	–	4	–	½	–	¼	–	–	–	3	One gill	Half an ounce	Six ounces	Two ounces	Half an ounce
Friday	–	–	8	2	–	6	8	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	4	2	3					
Saturday	6	–	–	–	–	6	8	–	¼	4	–	–	–	–	¼	–	–	–	3					

YOUNG CHILDREN'S SCALE.—Children between one and four years of age are to receive preserved meat instead of salt meat every day; also a quarter of a pint of preserved milk, and every alternate day one egg, or two teaspoonfuls of condensed egg. Children under one year old are to be allowed three pints of water daily; and if above four months old, a quarter of a pint of milk daily; also 3 oz. of preserved soup, and one egg, or two teaspoonfuls of condensed egg every alternate day, and 12 oz. of biscuit, 4 oz. of oatmeal, 8 oz. of flour, 4 oz. of rice, and 10 oz. of sugar weekly. To infants under four months old the surgeon may issue such nutriment as he may in any case think necessary.

While in any port in the United Kingdom, or in any port into which the vessel may put before completing the voyage, and for one or two days after sailing, if practicable, two-thirds of a pound of fresh meat, one pound and a half of soft bread, and one pound of potatoes per statute adult are to be issued daily, with a suitable supply of vegetables, in lieu of all the other rations, except, tea, coffee, sugar, and butter.

By Order of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners,

S. Walcott,
Secretary.

Government Emigration Board,
Park-street, Westminster,
May 1858.

Sub-Enclosure 3, to Enclosure 1, in No. 23.

LIST showing the Net Quantities of each of the under-mentioned Articles to be put on board Coolie Ships for every 100 Statute Adults, for the use of Children under four years of age, and to be issued in the discretion of the Surgeon Superintendent.

Preserved meat in tins	224 lbs.
Preserved soup (without vegetables) in 1 lb. tins	50 „
Condensed egg	20 „
Preserved milk	500 pints.
Water for use of infants under 12 months	600 gallons.

Sub-Enclosure 4, to Enclosure 1, in No. 23.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
6 March 1857.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 24th September last, informing me that the Commissioners considered it advisable that the amount of ventilation should be considerably increased on emigrant vessels leaving this port, I have now the honour to forward herewith

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February.

with copy of a letter from the Protector of Emigrants to my address, from which you will observe that this important question has received every consideration and attention here, and that all ships despatched to the West Indies, subsequent to the receipt of your communication above referred to, have been fitted with four tubular ventilators, in addition to the number which were previously required, *vide* accompanying sketch.

2. I would also beg to call your attention to the concluding paragraph of the Protector's letter, in which he suggests, that in chartering vessels next year, preference should be given to such as may have large stern ports, and that no iron ship be taken up for this particular service.

3. Many alterations and improvements in the fittings of coolie ships have been introduced this season, and I therefore trust that the health and comfort of the people during the voyage will be materially benefited thereby.

I have, &c.

S. Walcott, Esq. &c. &c. (signed) *T. Caird*, Emigration Agent.

Protector's Office, Fort William,
9 February 1857.

Sir,

With reference to the letter and book forwarded by yourself to me for perusal, on the subject of fittings for coolie ships and ventilation, the surveyors of this department have been desired to pay great attention to the subject; and in giving their opinion, as to the most eligible vessel for the purpose of conveying emigrants, to particularly study the means of ventilation, and to give preference to those that have good-sized side scuttles and large stern ports. The vessels latterly fitted out for the West Indies have had to be fitted with two extra iron ventilators through the poop and two through the forecastle.

The ships chartered in England have generally been well fitted with side scuttles and large stern ports, with the exception of the ship "Eveline;" she had no stern ports, and the after-part of the vessel consequently was not very well ventilated and was dark.

I would suggest, that should you have occasion to address the Commissioners for Emigration in England, you would propose to them, that in chartering vessels next year, preference should be given to vessels with large stern ports, such as the "Wellesley" and "Bucephalus" as these vessels are, in my opinion, admirably adapted for the conveyance of emigrants.

I have, &c.

To Thomas Caird, Esq.
Emigration Agent.

(signed) *Jas. Sutherland.*

P.S.—In chartering ships in England I am of opinion that it would be to the benefit of Government and conducive to the health of the emigrants, that wooden-built ships only should be engaged; as an iron ship in this climate gets very hot and retains the heat from the effect of the sun.

Sub-Enclosure 5, to Enclosure 1, in No. 23.

Extract of Letter from Immigration Agent at Sydney, 24 April 1857.

4. In speaking of the fitting of this vessel "Beejapore," it may be as well here to allude to the system adopted in her for the ventilation of the 'tweendecks, and which is, in my opinion, admirably adapted for all passenger vessels.

It consists of cowls or moveable air shafts made of tin, which can be trimmed to the wind, and which were in this instance placed on either side of the forecastle and poop, the lower part being connected with a wooden case running the whole length of either side of the vessel, having at every 15 feet a perforated plate. The case formed a seat for the emigrants, and the surgeon described the ventilation as so perfect that during the heavy weather which the ship experienced in the English Channel, and when the hatches were battened down, no inconvenience was felt by the passengers.

Encl. 2, in No. 23.

Enclosure 2, in No. 23.

Downing-street, 12 May 1858.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your report, dated the 14th ultimo, referring to the arrival of the ship "Wellesley" at Trinidad, and containing your observations on some general remarks made by the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana on the mode of conveying coolies from India.

I am desired to acquaint you that your report will be communicated to the Governors of British Guiana and Trinidad. An application will be made to the East India Board for the completion of the inquiry, which was requested last year, into the causes of the mortality amongst

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amongst emigrants from Calcutta, and for a communication of the result to this Department.

With regard to the important question treated in your report of making some reduction in the space allotted by law to emigrants from Madras and Bombay to the West Indies, I am directed to state that Lord Stanley feels that great weight is due to your opinions on such a point, both from the wide extent of your experience and from the success which has attended your conduct of the service entrusted to your administration.

I am desired however to acquaint you, that after fully considering the subject, Lord Stanley does not feel prepared at present to carry your suggestion into effect. The emigration from Madras has hitherto been so limited as scarcely to afford a sufficient basis for any considerable innovation, the emigration from Bombay has not yet been tried, and the French emigration, although so important in the inferences which it suggests, lies beyond any direct knowledge and observation by responsible British officers, and the reports concerning it may need some confirmation. Looking to these circumstances, and feeling strongly the importance of not running any risk which might impair public confidence in the arrangements of the service, Lord Stanley thinks it advisable not to sanction the proposal of any alteration in the law as yet, although fully admitting that further experience of British emigration from Madras and Bombay, and such a continuance of the accounts of French emigration as may confirm the previous reports, may justify changes in the existing system at no distant period.

I am, &c.

The Emigration Commissioners. (signed) *H. Merivale.*

—No. 24.—

(No. 32.)

No. 24. The Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Lieut. Governor Walker. 13 May 1858.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Lieutenant Governor *Walker.*

Sir, Downing-street, 13 May 1858.

From the accompanying extract from a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, with an extract from a letter from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, you will learn that the "Hamilla Mitchell" has arrived at Calcutta with return coolies. 3 May 1858. 8 March 1858.

2. It appears from the letter from Mr. Eales that, owing to the current rate of exchange being lower in India than in British Guiana, considerable loss has been sustained by these coolies from their savings having been transmitted by a Commissariat order.

3. As the coolies state that a promise was made to them in the colony that any deficiency should be made good to them, I have to request that you will furnish me with a report upon the real nature of the engagements in question.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Stanley.*

Encl. in No. 24.

Enclosure in No. 24.

(Extract.)

Emigration Office, 3 May 1858.

Sub-Enclosure.

"We enclose the copy of a letter which we have received from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting the arrival of the "Hamilla Mitchell" from British Guiana, and of the "Eveline" from Trinidad with return coolies.

"It appears that difficulties still occur in paying coolies the amount of savings deposited by them with the governments in the West Indies; nor is it very easy to be sure of the exact nature of such transactions with such explanations as alone we possess. If we understand the matter aright, a certain gain would on former occasions have accrued to the coolies from having the benefit of the current rate of exchange, which therefore they claimed. On the present occasion the application of the current rate of exchange to their transactions has caused them a loss of which they complain. It appears to us, however, that the real nature of the promises made to them in Demerara can only be ascertained by referring the question to the colony; and we would suggest that the first four paragraphs of Mr. Eales' letter should be communicated to the Lieutenant Governor for his report."

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 24.

(Extract.)

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
8 March 1858.

"In continuation of my letter of the 23d February, reporting the arrival of the 'Hamilla Mitchell' with return coolies from Demerara, I have now the honour to acquaint you for the information of Her Majesty's Land and Emigration Commissioners that 203 men, 38 women, 10 boys,

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10 boys, and 10 girls, three male infants; five females were landed in good condition from the above ship, with the exception of seven men and one woman who died on the passage.

"I personally inspected the ship in company with Assistant Protector of Emigrants before the coolies were landed, and was gratified in finding that the arrangements made at the port of embarkation for their welfare and general comfort had been strictly enforced by the surgeon and commander of the vessel, and the coolies expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the treatment they experienced on the voyage.

"I regret however to state, that much dissatisfaction has been caused by the serious loss each individual has sustained by their savings having been made payable here by a Commissariat order, the current rate of exchange admits only of two rupees being paid for each dollar, instead of two rupees three annas which they are unanimous in declaring was the value promised to them at Demerara; the sum thus lost to the coolies by this mode of payment, amounts to $. 2,481. 98 cents. A representation on this subject has been made to the Indian Government by the Protector of Emigrants, suggesting the further payment of the difference of exchange pending the instructions of the Board of Commissioners on the subject, which I now solicit.

"For some days the people objected to receive any portion of their money unless at the full rate of two rupees three annas per dollar, but cholera in a fatal form having made its appearance amongst them, they became alarmed, and agreed to take their money at two rupees per dollar, provided I would promise to obtain from the Board the amount lost to each by the rate of exchange."

— No. 25. —

(No. 34.)

No. 25. The Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Lieut. Governor Walker. 15 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 May 1858.

WITH reference to the proposal which was made on the subject from the colony under your government, I have the honour to inform you that the East India Board conveyed to this office, with an expression of their own concurrence, an intimation from the Court of Directors that they would not object to allowing coolie labourers in the West Indies to commute their right to a back passage, but that they could only give this consent on condition that the coolie should be made fully to understand by a Protector of Emigrants (to be appointed by the Government of India, and paid by the Colonies) the nature of the bargain into which he might enter.

I could not but feel that this condition was open to objections of the most serious character. I therefore caused a representation, of which a copy is enclosed, to be addressed to the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, but they have informed me in answer, that they and the Court of Directors adhere to their previous opinion. Copies of this answer, and of a reply which I have caused to be returned to it, are enclosed for your information.

14 April 1858, Enclosure 1.

Enclosure 2, 5 May 1858.

Enclosure 3, 14 May 1858.

You will find fully stated in the correspondence the numerous inconveniences which, in my opinion, would have been likely to attend the enforcement of the provision stipulated for by the Indian Departments. I believe that a plan admitting the commutation of a right to back passage upon fair terms, and with the full assent of immigrants who had become thoroughly acquainted with the colonies, would have been likely to be beneficial to all parties, but I do not think that the advantage would be worth purchasing by yielding to so anomalous an arrangement as the introduction into the West Indies of an officer appointed by, and responsible to a distant Government, necessarily unfamiliar with the circumstances of the colonies in which its functionary would have to act.

It may still be hoped that some of the coolies who have prospered in the colonies and become attached to them, may at the end of 10 years' residence choose to remain there, even though they will be prevented from receiving an equivalent for the passage which they would be entitled to demand from the public.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

Encl. 1, in No. 25.

Enclosure 1, in No. 25

Sir, Downing-street, 14 April 1858.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acquaint you that he has had before him your letter of the 13th January last, communicating, with the concurrence of the Commissioners for the Affairs

Affairs of India, a statement of the Court of Directors that they would not object to allowing coolie labourers in the West Indies to commute their right to a back passage, but that they can only give this consent on condition that the coolie shall be made fully to understand by a Protector of Emigrants (to be appointed by the Government of India,) the nature of the bargain into which he has entered.

I am desired to state that Lord Stanley feels bound strongly to recommend that this opinion should be reconsidered; and with this view he proposes briefly to recapitulate the facts out of which the question has arisen.

In consequence of abuses which prevailed many years ago, when coolie emigrants were obtained from India by private persons, the emigration was for a time wholly stopped, and was afterwards reopened under a variety of restrictions. The emigrants were only to be procured through Government agents; they were consigned to the care of Government officers in the colonies, and were not under contract to any individuals until after their arrival there; and, amongst several other provisions for their security, they were guaranteed a passage back to their own country by means of public funds. In the course of time it has been found that many of the restrictions originally imposed may with propriety be relaxed, and they have therefore been gradually modified in the manner which experience has shown to be justifiable. Amongst other things, it appeared that at the end of the fixed term of residence the colonies were willing to pay, and the coolies were often willing and desirous to receive, a sum of money, or a grant of land, as an inducement to waive their right to a return passage, and to remain in the place where they were settled.

Upon this proposal the Government of India, in their Despatch, No. 113 of the 28th of September 1857, expressed the following views:

"To prohibit an Indian labourer from selling to the colony his absolute right to a return passage, after he has actually obtained that right, could only be justified, in our opinion, on the ground that there is great risk of the coolie in the colony being forced, or otherwise unfairly induced, to enter into the bargain by the colonial authorities; and, as no such imputation can be made, it appears to us that the labourers should be left to make their own bargain, care being taken to protect them against unfair treatment; and that with this view a Protector of Emigrants should be appointed by the Government of India, or your Honourable Court, to reside in the colony. It should also be provided that no contract for commuting the right to a return passage shall be binding on any Indian labourer, unless entered into after full explanation of the effect of the contract being made by such Protector of Immigrants."

In the earlier and general part of these remarks Lord Stanley fully concurs; but he thinks that the nature of the case was perhaps not fully before the Indian Government when it proposed to attach to them the suggestion by which they are concluded. I am desired to enclose an extract of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, which brings under notice the small amount of duty which the proposed Protector would have to perform; the experience already acquired that the colonial authorities would deal with the coolies in such transactions with perfect fairness; the complete absence of any ground for suspecting that the gentlemen intrusted by Her Majesty with the high office of representing Her as Governors of these colonies would not insist on a full protection of the rights of the coolies; and the onerous and costly nature of the burthen which would be thrown upon the colonies if, notwithstanding these facts, they were forced to maintain out of colonial funds an officer appointed by the Indian Government to watch their proceedings. 15 February 1858. (Par. 8 to the end.)

Lord Stanley entirely adopts these representations. To place in a community officers who are not answerable to the proper heads of that community, but only to distant superiors quite unfamiliar with its circumstances, must be productive of many inconveniences, but more especially cannot fail to engender illwill and jealousy between different classes of public servants. No examples whatever have been adduced, either of private ill-treatment of coolies in the West Indies or of neglect of their interests by the authorities there, which would seem to demand such unusual and almost disparaging measures of precaution against the administration of the representatives of the Queen in that part of the world.

There appears no good reason why British subjects, after they have been resident for a long course of years in a British colony, and are thoroughly conversant both with its circumstances and their own position, should be prohibited from selling a valuable right, unless a government situated on the opposite side of the globe can be satisfied by officers of its own that the labourers know what they are about, or that it would not be better for them to return to a country where they were in a state of comparative want, and were exposed, notwithstanding every care, to oppression of a kind quite unknown in the British West Indies. On these grounds Lord Stanley trusts that the Commissioners for the Affairs of India will agree with him in endeavouring to procure a withdrawal of the request that these bargains should not be permitted, unless with the assent of an Indian Protector.

Lord Stanley forbears at the present moment from entering into the question of the appointment of a Protector at the Mauritius, because this appears to have been specially agreed to in a correspondence between the Indian Government and that of Mauritius; but the same objections of principle apply to both cases, although in that of the Mauritius the consideration of expense is less material, since a Colonial Protector always existed there, and also because the larger number of coolie immigrants supplies a larger amount of business to be performed.

I am, &c.

Sir George Clerk, K.C.B. (signed) *H. Merivale.*

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Encl. 2, in No. 25.

Enclosure 2, in No. 25.

Sir, India Board, 5 May 1858.

I AM directed by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India to acknowledge the receipt of of your letter of the 14th ultimo, with its enclosure from the Emigration Commissioners, relative to the appointment of a Protector of Emigrants at the West India Colonies by the Government of India.

In reply I have to inform you that the objections urged by Lord Stanley to such an appointment have been fully considered by the Court of Directors of the East India Company, and by this Board, and the result is the unanimous opinion that the Government of India, who are responsible for the proper treatment of the coolies, should have the power of appointing their own officers.

29 April 1858, Sub-Enclosure.

The remarks of the Court of Directors in the concluding paragraph of the enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. Dickinson, will, the Board trust, tend to remove many of the objections urged by Lord Stanley to such an arrangement.

I have, &c.
(signed) *George Clerk.*

H. Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 2, in No. 25.

Sir, East India House, 29 April 1858.

I HAVE laid before the Court of Directors of the East India Company, Sir George Clerk's letter, dated 21st instant, forwarding a copy of a letter with its enclosure received from the Colonial Office, relating to the power proposed to be given to the governments of certain of the West India Colonies, to commute the right of Indian emigrants to return passages to their own country; and with reference to the objections of Lord Stanley to the appointment, by the Government of India, of a Protector of Emigrants, for the purpose of explaining to the immigrants the nature of such proposed commutation, communicating the opinion of the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, that in all colonies which enjoy the advantage of the labour of emigrants from India, the same power of appointing a Protector of Emigrants should be possessed by the Government of India, which has been conceded in the case of the Mauritius.

2. The Court are gratified to find that the Commissioners concur with them as to the necessity of insisting on the condition on which the Government of India recommended acquiescence in the proposals of the Colonies of British Guiana and Jamaica.

3. The Court, with reference to the observations of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and of the Emigration Commissioners, think it necessary to remark that in supporting the suggestion of the Government of India, it was far from their intention to imply any distrust of the officers entrusted with the administration of any of Her Majesty's Colonies. But after the painful occurrences at the Mauritius in 1856, which led the Government of India to recur to the arrangement originally agreed on, though suffered to fall into abeyance, and to insist on the right of appointing the Protector of Emigrants in that colony, the Court think that it cannot be maintained that the Government of India can be discharged from responsibility for the welfare of Indian emigrants, merely because they may go to colonies which are administered by officers personally desirous of securing them from ill treatment.

4. The Court do not apprehend that the Government of India contemplate in all the colonies, however small the number of Indian labourers who may resort thither, the appointment of a gentleman to the office of Protector of Emigrants, who shall have no other functions to discharge. But assuming that such an officer is to be appointed, who is to exercise the functions of Protector, on the nomination of and under responsibility to the Government of India, the Court do not doubt that that Government would willingly receive suggestions on behalf of the several colonies concerned, which would enable them to carry out the arrangement in a manner the least onerous to the finances of the colony, and the least likely to cause those feelings of jealousy and illwill which seem to be apprehended by the Emigration Commissioners.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. D. Dickinson.*

The Secretary, India Board.

Encl. 3, in No. 25.

Enclosure 3, in No. 25.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 May 1858.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., conveying the adherence of the East India Board and of the Directors of the East India Company, to their previous objection to allow coolies in the West Indies to commute their right to a back passage, unless a Protector of Immigrants named by the Indian Government be introduced into those colonies and paid for at their expense, in order to give his sanction to the proposed bargains.

I am desired to acquaint you that as this is the confirmed opinion of the Departments responsible for the Affairs of India, Lord Stanley, although he thinks that a plan of commutation with the full assent of immigrants well acquainted with the colonies, was a good one,

one, and likely to have been useful, does not consider it worth carrying into effect, at the expense of an arrangement so objectionable as the introduction into the West Indies of an officer appointed by, and responsible to, an extraneous authority. His Lordship, therefore, will not urge the proposal further.

I am, &c.

Sir George Clerk, K.C.B. (signed) *H. Merivale.*

— No. 26. —

(No. 35.)

No. 26. Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Wodehouse. 17 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 May 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, a copy of a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom were referred, together with your letter of the 28th January, the several Despatches from the Governor of the Windward Islands, explaining his views on the subject of the importation of immigrants into the West Indies.

Barbados, No. 8. 15 March 1858. Vide Part II.

I have to express my general concurrence in the views expressed by the Commissioners.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 27. —

(No. 36.)

No. 27. Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Wodehouse. 21 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 21 May 1858.

I TRANSMIT for your information copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, together with a statement of the ships and emigrants despatched from Calcutta to the West Indies during the present season.

Enclosure, 17 May 1858.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Stanley.*

Enclosure in No. 27. Encl. in No. 27.

Sir, Emigration Office, 17 May 1858.

WE enclose, for Lord Stanley's information and for transmission to the Governor of Trinidad, the copy of a letter from Mr. Caird, the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting the departure from that port for Trinidad of the "Salsette," with 324 coolie emigrants on board, equal to 274½ adults.

16 March, Sub-Enclosure 1.

2. We also enclose a statement of the ships and emigrants despatched from Calcutta to the West Indies. We would draw attention to the large proportion of females despatched, being upwards of 50 per cent. on the number of the males.

Sub-Enclosure 2.

3. We learn from a similar statement respecting the Mauritius emigration, that, between the 22nd of May and the 31st of December last, Mr. Caird despatched to Mauritius, in 23 ships, the subjoined number of persons:

Adults:	Male	4,382	
	Female	2,163	
			6,545
Children:	Male	677	
	Female	463	
			1,140
Infants			489
	TOTAL		8,174

equal to 7,115 statute adults.

We have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. &c. &c. &c. (signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.* *Frederic Rogers.*

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Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 27.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
16 March 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having this day despatched the ship "Salsette" to Trinidad with the undermentioned number of emigrants.

Copy of a charterparty, together with the surgeon's certificate of health of the above vessel, is herewith enclosed.

Ship "Salsette." 145 males, 100 females, 32 boys, 27 girls, and 20 infants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird,*
Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

I hereby appoint you to be surgeon superintendent of the ship "Salsette," which vessel is expected to sail about the 13th instant with coolies for Trinidad.

2. You will be so good as to call at my office on the 12th instant, for the purpose of thoroughly examining each individual prior to going on board, and also to inspect the medicines and see that they are of good quality.

3. A copy of the instructions for your guidance, to which it will be your duty strictly to attend, will be handed to you on your taking charge of the emigrants.

4. Your remuneration will consist of a free cabin passage (with diet at the captain's table), from Calcutta to Trinidad, and from thence to England. Secondly, of a gratuity of (4) four rupees for each coolie landed alive in the West Indies, provided you discharge your duties to the satisfaction of the Government authorities in Trinidad.

5. The advance of rupees (200) two hundred made to you in Calcutta will be deducted from your gratuity which is payable in Trinidad.

I am, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

Dr. J. Edward Dyer.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 27.

RETURN of SHIPS and EMIGRANTS despatched from *Calcutta* to the *West India* Colonies, from 12 November 1857 to the 16th of March 1858.

NAME of SHIP.	Tonnage. Old.	Tonnage. New.	Contract Price.	Date on which Placed at the Disposal of Agent at Calcutta.	Date of Departure.	Embarked. Adults.		Children.		Infants.	Total Souls.	Statute Adults.	REMARKS.
Trinidad:			£. s. d.										
Wellesley	–	1,100	11 17 –	11 Nov. 1857	12 Nov. 1857	173	135	47	37	29	421	350	
Ellenborough	–	1,031	10 15 –	8 Jan. 1858	9 Jan. 1858	192	122	43	30	27	414	350½	
Saladin	–	856	14 – –	19 Feb. 1858	20 Feb. 1858	201	112	37	18	18	386	340½	
Salsette	–	625	13 – –	15 Mar. 1858	16 Mar. 1858	145	100	32	27	20	324	274½	
Demerara:													
Bucephalus	–	950	10 15 –	18 Dec. 1857	19 Dec. 1857	211	110	32	27	16	396	350½	
Cambodia (screw steam ship).	–	914	12 – –	30 Jan. 1858	31 Jan. 1858	156	120	24	24	19	343	300	
Clarendon	–	802	12 10 –	6 Mar. 1858	7 Mar. 1858	175	139	36	37	34	421	350½	
Grenada:													
Fulwood	–	1,160	13 – –	25 Feb. 1858	26 Feb. 1858	194	124	39	25	20	402	350	
					TOTALS	1,447	962	290	225	183	3,107	2,666½	

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 16 March 1858.

(signed) *T. Caird,*
Emigration Agent.

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— No. 28. —

(No. 46.)

No. 28. Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Wodehouse. 4 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 4 June 1858.

I HAVE had before me Lieutenant Governor Walker's Despatch, No. 26 * of the 24th of March last, accompanied by a resolution of the Court of Policy in favour of having the exclusive services of any agent appointed to act for the colony at Bombay. On this subject I have to refer you to the general instructions sent to you by this mail on the agency for collecting emigrants in India for the West Indies.

With regard to the applications for the appointment of agent transmitted by Lieutenant Governor Walker from Sir William Holmes and from Mr. George Dennis, I request that you will acquaint those gentlemen that their letters have duly reached my hands, but in conformity with the course laid down in my general instructions on the Indian agencies, it will rest with you to decide upon their applications.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

* Page 28.

— No. 29. —

(No. 1.)

No. 29. Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse. 8 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 8 June 1858.

WITH reference to my predecessor's Despatch of the 13th ultimo, No. 32,† I transmit a copy of a further letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners as to the rate at which the return coolies by the ship "Hamilla Mitchell" should receive payment of their savings.

Enclosure. 4 June.

I have authorised the Commissioners to instruct the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta to pay their people in accordance with the recommendation made in the concluding paragraph of their letter.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton*.

† Page 159.

Encl. in No. 29.

Enclosure in No. 29.

Sir, Emigration Office, 4 June 1858.

WITH reference to our letter of the 3d ultimo respecting the rate at which the return coolies by the ship "Hamilla Mitchell" should receive repayment of the savings deposited by them with the Immigration Agent of British Guiana, we have the honour to state that within the last few days we have had the opportunity of conferring personally with Mr. Gardiner Austin. That gentleman informs us that the coolies by this (as by previous ships) were informed that they would receive for every dollar deposited by them the same amount which they would have obtained in Calcutta if they had taken the money with them in specie. We infer from the papers enclosed in your letter of the 24th ultimo respecting the savings of the coolies in the "Blue Jacket," that the value of a silver dollar is about *Rs.* 2. 3 *a.*, which, according to the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, is the sum demanded by the coolies.

2. We would, therefore, request authority to instruct Mr. Eales, by the mail of the 10th instant, that he is to make to these people such a further payment as, with the money they have already received, will give them for every dollar to which they are entitled to receive, the full market value of a silver dollar as it stood in Calcutta when the "Hamilla Mitchell" arrived there.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

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— No. 30. —

(No. 5.)

No. 30. Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse. 14 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 June 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with the accounts enclosed, so far as they relate to British Guiana, submitting the mode of apportionment between the different West India Colonies concerned, of Mr. Caird's expenditure for coolie emigration during the seasons of 1855-6 and 1856-7.

Enclosure. 7 June 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 30.

Enclosure in No. 30.

Sir, Emigration Office, 7 June 1858.

WITH reference to our letter of the 8th January 1856, reporting the apportionment by us of Mr. Caird's expenditure in India on account of the West India Colonies for five seasons, ending in March 1855, and to the approval conveyed in your letter of the 24th of the same month, we beg to state that we have now apportioned among the colonies of British Guiana, Trinidad and Grenada, Mr. Caird's expenditure for the seasons of 1855-6 and 1856-7. We have adopted, for this purpose, the same principle of division as that already approved by the Secretary of State, viz., that of charging to the several colonies, in addition to the expenses specifically belonging to them, a proportion of the general and miscellaneous expenditure computed in the ratio of the numbers of emigrants despatched to them respectively in each season.

Guiana, Trinidad, and Grenada.

2. We enclose three statements, exhibiting the results of the present apportionment, and we have forwarded to the colonies concerned, in elucidation of the charges appearing against them in our accounts, copies of these statements, together with full details of the expenditure, extracted from Mr. Caird's accounts.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 30.

BRITISH GUIANA.

APPORTIONMENT of Expenses incurred by the Emigration Agent at Calcutta in the Seasons 1855-6 and 1856-7.

	£	s.	d.
Expenses belonging to particular ships for 1855-6 (as per Statement A) -	1,547	3	7
Ditto - - - ditto - for 1856-7 (as per Statement B) -	2,985	6	2
Proportion of general expenses as under season of 1855-6 (as per Statement C), 538*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*, divided in the ratio of 915 adults embarked for British Guiana, and 600½ to other colonies - - - - - - - -	325	2	–
Season of 1856-7 (as per Statement D), 1,469*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, divided in the ratio of 1,905½ adults embarked for British Guiana, and 1,833½ to other colonies	748	17	6
Difference of exchange between 2*s.* the rupee, the rate at which the above amounts are uniformly computed in Mr. Caird's accounts, and the actual rates at which the advances made to Mr. Caird by the East India Company have been repaid - - - - - - - - - -	42	17	7
£.	5,649	6	10

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 30.

TRINIDAD.

APPORTIONMENT of Expenses incurred by the Emigration Agent at Calcutta in the Seasons 1855-6 and 1856-7.

	£.	s.	d.
Expenses belonging to particular ships for 1855-6 (as per Statement A) -	986	3	2
Ditto - - - ditto - for 1856-7 (as per Statement B) -	2,438	16	10
Proportion of general expenses as under season of 1855-6 (as per Statement C); 538*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*, divided in the ratio of 600½ adults embarked for Trinidad, and 915 to other colonies - - - - - - - - -	213	7	1
Season of 1856-7 (as per Statement D), 1,469*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, divided in the ratio of 1,483½ adults embarked for Trinidad, and 2,255½ to other colonies -	583	-	7
Difference of exchange between 2*s.* the rupee, the rate at which the above amounts are uniformly computed in Mr. Caird's accounts, and the actual rates at which the advances made to Mr. Caird by the East India Company have been repaid - - - - - - - - - - -	31	13	9
£.	4,253	1	5

Sub-Enclosure 3, to Enclosure in No. 30.

GRENADA.

APPORTIONMENT of Expenses incurred by Mr. Caird, the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, in the Season 1856-7.

	£.	s.	d.
Expenses belonging to the ship "Maidstone" (as per Statement A) - -	523	7	5
Proportion of general expenses (as per Statement B) 1,469*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, divided in the ratio of 350 adults embarked for Grenada, and 3,389 for other colonies - - - - - - - - - - - -	137	11	1
Difference of exchange between 2*s.* the rupee, the rate at which the above amounts are computed in Mr. Caird's accounts, and the actual rates at which the advances made to Mr. Caird by the East India Company have been repaid - - - - - - - - - - - - -	5	6	5
£.	666	4	11

— No. 31. —

(No. 6.)

No. 31.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
15 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 June 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information and guidance, a copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, detailing the particulars under which payments of savings were made to certain return emigrants from Demerara by the ship "Empress Eugenie;" and I have to acquaint you, that I have authorised the Emigration Commissioners to repay to the account of the East India Company at the Bank of England, the sum of 340*l.* 7*s.* 5½*d.*, being the amount paid to these coolies in excess of the sum received from the colony for that purpose.

8 June 1858. Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 31.

Encl. in No. 31.

Sir, Emigration Office, 8 June 1858.

12 May.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 24th ultimo, enclosing the copy of a letter from the India Board, respecting a sum paid by the East India Company to the return coolies by the "Empress Eugenie," repayment of which is claimed from the colony of British Guiana.

2. The Immigration Agent of that colony persuaded the coolies to deposit their savings with him, instead of carrying the money on their persons, under a promise that when they arrived in India they should receive from the authorities there the same sum which they would

BRITISH GUIANA.

would have received if they had carried the actual amount of their savings in silver dollars. This promise was duly notified to this office and to the Protector at Madras, with an urgent request that means might be taken to secure its fulfilment.

3. The amount of deposits thus received, according to the mode of computation adopted in British Guiana, was 4,279*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*, which sum was accordingly transmitted to this country, and paid to the East India Company; but the amount which, in pursuance of Mr. Austin's promise, the officers of the East India Company actually paid to the coolies at Madras, was 4,620*l.* 3*s.* 11½*d.* The difference of 340*l.* 7*s.* 5½*d.* is, of course, repayable to the Company, and is now accordingly claimed.

4. We would request permission to repay this sum to the account of the East India Company with the Bank of England.

5. We observe that Mr. Wodehouse, in his Despatch of 25 October 1856, stated that these coolies had been informed that they would receive 4*s.* 2*d.* for every dollar of their deposits; but the payments of the Protector, which were at the rate current in India of about 4*s.* 4½*d.*, were made on the representation of the Immigration Agent, which alone had reached him, and which (coming from the officer who had made the promise) is, of course, correct.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 32. —

(No. 17.)

No. 32.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., to Governor Wodehouse.
17 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 June 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copy of one from Mr. Franklin, the Emigration Agent at Madras, reporting that he despatched the "White Eagle" with coolie emigrants to British Guiana, and explaining the reasons of his not having been able to send a larger number.

Enclosure. 3 May 1858

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 32.

Enclosure in No. 32.

Emigration Office, 3 May 1858.

10 February. Sub-Enclosure 1.

WE enclose the copy of a letter which we have received from Mr. Franklin, Emigration Agent at Madras, reporting that he has despatched the "White Eagle" to Demerara, with the following numbers on board:

227 men; 102 women; 25 boys; 17 girls; 9 infants: total - 380.

He states that this is the only ship which he will be able to despatch during this season; that the competition of the emigration to Mauritius and the French West Indies, and the delay for 10 years of a free return passage, would have prevented him at any rate from sending more than two ships, and that an outbreak of the cholera constrained him to disperse the emigrants who were collected for one of them.

2. We cannot of course judge whether greater exertions would have enabled Mr. Franklin to accomplish any more satisfactory results. The fact that he did not report to us till the 10th of February the engagement of the "White Eagle," which left Madras on the 28th December, and that he has left us wholly without information as to the progress of the emigration to Mauritius, does not indicate much activity.

10 March. Sub-Enclosure 2.

3. From a second letter from Mr. Franklin (of which we also enclose a copy), it appears that he is at present acting as Protector of Emigrants, and that while he exercises those functions, a gentleman named Burton has been appointed by the Governor of Madras to perform the duties of Emigration Agent. We cannot but feel some doubt whether the operations which have hitherto been so unsuccessfully conducted for three seasons might not be pressed with greater energy by a gentleman whose connexion with the West Indian colonies was more immediate, either as deriving his appointment from them, or as corresponding directly with the local authorities. And we would also observe, that it will be very difficult to defend the stoppage of emigration from Madras to Mauritius during six months, unless the result is to procure some material advantage for the West Indies, which, in the present season, has not been the case.

4. We

4. We would suggest that a copy of Mr. Franklin's letter should be communicated to the Governments of British Guiana and Trinidad, both as explaining generally the reasons of his ill success, and particularly as showing the consequences which, in his opinion, result from a protracted period of industrial residence.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 32.

Colonial Emigration Office, Madras,
10 February 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 28th December 1857, I despatched the "White Eagle," a vessel of 993 tons N. M., with the emigrants noted in the margin to Demerara, and it is with much regret I have to add that no other ship can be sent during the present season. I had led you to anticipate the despatch of three ships during the six months of the West Indian emigration, but found it impossible to fill more than two, and another would have been sent had not cholera made its appearance in Madras. For a long time by care and attention to cleanliness and fumigation, the disease was kept from my depôt, but during the past fortnight this immunity has ceased, and I have at last been constrained, after losing 14 individuals of different ages out of between 300 and 400, to remove all the emigrants collected to a distance leaving in the depôt those only who are under treatment in my hospital. In the town of Madras the disease is as prevalent, if not more so, than it was, and there being now but three weeks to elapse before the season closes, I am under the necessity of giving up all hope of arranging for the embarkation of another shipload within the period prescribed by the Act.

Men	227
Women	102
Boys	25
Girls	17
Infants	9

2. The "White Eagle" was engaged at 13 *l.* for each statute adult, and at half that rate for children, particulars of which were sent in due course to the Protector of Immigrants at Demerara. Uncertain of the numbers I could procure, I engaged this vessel on the understanding that she should be at my disposal in all October, and remain in the Roads until I could fill her. She is a particularly eligible vessel, and I have reason to expect that the emigrants embarked in her will arrive in good health.

3. It is incumbent on me to offer some explanation as to the failure of my expectation of despatching three ships aggregating about 1,000 statutes, I have always reported that the natives are averse to proceed to the West Indies, partly from the distance, and partly from their having relations and friends at the Mauritius; still I expected that with the advances made, 10 rupees as advance, and five rupees gratuity, the number mentioned might have been collected. Three great drawbacks, however, interfere with the supply. In the first place they strongly object to the 10 years' stay in the colony. It is to them like bidding adieu to their native country for ever. The term must be reduced to five with back passage to find favour with the class of people who emigrate. The advances induced many to proceed to Demerara in lieu of to the Mauritius, but in more instances than I expected they failed.

4. In the second place the native emissaries of the Mauritius planters naturally oppose themselves strongly to any of these people proceeding to the West Indies. This it is impossible to check, nor would it be fair to that colony to attempt to coerce in this point the men sent to recruit. To counterbalance this opposition it will however be necessary next season to close the Mauritius emigration, when that for the West Indies commences. I was loth to do this in September, being bound to obey the orders of the Mauritius Government to the best of my ability, and hoping to serve the two colonies at the same time. Experience, however, shows me that it is not practicable, and on the 1st of next September, the despatch of emigrants to the Mauritius will temporarily cease.

5. A third difficulty arises from the competition we meet with in the agents of the French settlements of Pondicherry and Karikal. Their agency is carried on much the same as ours; the men are well cared for, well fed, and sent away in good ships with ample provisions. The natives know this, and it is not extraordinary that being provided with a back passage in five years many should go to the French Antilles in preference to ours. Their emigrants are recruited through the agency of a native of respectable standing, who receives six rupees for each adult registered. His business is merely to bring the individual before the agent, who after registry sends him to the depôt, where he is kept at the expense of the company by which he is despatched, and not by the native who recruits him.

6. These have been the three great obstacles to the fulfilment of my anticipations. Next year I hope to overcome them.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Jas. Franklin,*
Colonial Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 32.

Colonial Emigration Office, Madras,
10 March 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that, the Madras Government having appointed me Acting Protector of Emigrants, it was incumbent on me temporarily to resign the agency, to which situation Mr. Henry Burton has been nominated to act by the Right Honourable the Governor.

2. Mr. Burton, who has been for some time connected with emigration affairs, and who well understands the working of the office, took charge on the 24th ultimo, the day subsequent to his appointment appearing in the Government Gazette.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Jas. Franklin,*
Colonial Emigration Agent, and Acting Protector.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 33. —

(No. 14.)

No. 33.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., to Governor Wodehouse.
2 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton,* Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse.*

Extract.
14 June 1858.

Sir,

Downing-street, 2 July 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you an extract from a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with extract of a letter from Mr. Caird, on the subject of certain complaints made by coolie immigrants on their return to India from the West Indies.

I shall be glad to receive your remarks upon these complaints.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 33.

Enclosure in No. 33.

(Extract.)

Emigration Office, 14 June 1858.

Sub-Enclosure.

WE enclose, for the information of the Secretary of State, the copy of a letter from Mr. Caird, in which Mr. Caird replies to certain animadversions made by the Glasgow West Indian Association upon his mode of conducting the emigration to the West Indies.

So for as this letter (which has already been privately brought under Lord Stanley's notice), relates to the rule which required that the Mauritius emigration should be only carried on during six months of the year, it is disposed of by his Lordship's decision to allow every colony to carry on its emigration throughout any season of the year during which emigrants can safely be despatched.

So far as it relates to Mr. Caird's own conduct in regard to the West Indian emigration, it is perhaps scarcely worth pursuing, Lord Stanley having determined that the Mauritius and West Indian agencies shall be separated.

The alleged complaints of the coolies require more specific notice.

(I.) It is said that coolies do not receive return passages till long after they are due, and even when they do receive them are kept waiting for weeks at the port of embarkation in the West Indies for the ship which is to take them away. The first of these complaints is so far true, that there was great delay, amounting, in Jamaica, to two years, in giving the first return passages which became due. But we hope that this matter is now placed in a regular footing. With regard to the second complaint, we fear that as the exact day on which return coolies are embarked depends on the time at which the ship engaged for the purpose arrives in the West Indies, and this again on wind and weather, it will never be possible to fix a day of embarkation with certainty. But the Colonial authorities might be made aware of this complaint and desired to use their best endeavours to obviate it.

(II.) The allegation that they were not allowed to receive return passages unless they were possessed of money, we are quite unable to understand. We would suggest that the authorities of British Guiana and Trinidad, should be requested to explain it, if possible.

(III.) The statement that not only men but women have been compelled to enter into five years' engagements contrary to their inclination is indefinite. That they should be required,

required, even contrary to their own inclination, to enter into contracts in the form which is sanctioned by law, and in substance was communicated to them before leaving India, would be perfectly just and inevitable. These contracts are for three years certain, and for two additional years, unless the labourers choose to change their employer or redeem their period of service by a money payment.

It appears to us that it should be explained for the Emigration Agent in India, that females will be required to work in the West Indies, as they are required in their own country, and that the Governors of British Guiana and Trinidad should be requested to inquire and state whether in any case a positive engagement for five years, which would be illegal, has been substituted for the terminable engagement required by law.

(IV.) The losses of the coolies on the transmission of their savings, and (V.), the delay of payment in the case of those who went home by the "Eveline," have already been fully treated of in various reports from this office.

Herman Merivale, Esq.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 33.

Sir, Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 25 March 1858.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 23d January last, with its enclosure, copy of a memorial addressed to the Secretary of State by the Glasgow West India Association, on the subject of coolie emigration to the West India colonies.

2. With regard to the complaint that coolies were despatched from Calcutta to the Mauritius in the months of September and October, and that tenders had been invited for the same colony so late as the 8th of October, the period usually assigned for the shipment of coolies "to the West Indies," I have to observe that the Mauritius emigration has gone on without any interruption during the whole 12 months for the last 10 years past, and that the planters have always had recruiters in the provinces throughout the year collecting people for them; that on their arrival at Calcutta they must have the option given them of going to whichever colony they may elect (under the orders of the Government of India), and were I by any undue means to influence them to emigrate to the West Indies against their own free will and consent, that on the circumstance becoming known to the Government of India I should lay myself open to the severest censure.

3. The Commissioners further remark, "That I should be called upon to explain how it is that so many emigrants were sent to Mauritius while I stated in my letter of the 21st September that my operations on behalf of the West Indies were greatly impeded in consequence of the disturbed state of the Upper Provinces." In answer to this I have to state that the people who were shipped were mostly recruited by return men from the Mauritius, and that recruiting through the agency of men who have a direct interest in procuring people for a colony which is well known and in every respect popular with them, is a very different thing to collecting labourers through the agency of paid recruiters, who only receive payment in the event of the people reaching the depôt, being approved of, and being willing to emigrate to the West Indies. If they should abscond on the road, or take service in Calcutta, or refuse to embark, the recruiter has no redress; he must put up with the loss of not only his time, but the money also which he may have expended for their food on the way down.

4. The Mauritius recruiter is very differently circumstanced; it is very rare that people whom he collects abscond when they belong to his own village, and the only thing which the coolies have to fear is, on their departure from their respective villages becoming known, being followed by the landholders and taken back again; they in consequence, if unaccompanied by their women and children, take unfrequented paths instead of the high road, and, generally speaking, reach Calcutta unmolested. On the other hand, the people recruited by paid recruiters, seeing no immediate advantage to themselves, have not that interest in reaching Calcutta, and are open to offers from any party who may require their services on the road.

5. The Board must be well aware, from my previous reports, that I have never received the slightest assistance from men who have returned from the West Indies, but, on the contrary, they have often impeded my operations by the reports which they have circulated relative to their treatment in the West Indies; whereas those who come back from the Mauritius are all, with very few exceptions, instrumental in recruiting new men for the colony.

6. With regard to the remark of the memorialists, that "emigration ought to cease to the Mauritius on the 30th August, and then commence to the West Indies," I have to state that I have found from experience that, if such a course were adopted, it would be doing an injury to the Mauritius, without benefiting the West India colonies in the slightest degree. And, further, I am of opinion that the Indian Government would not permit it, as such an arrangement would virtually be an infraction of the conditions under which the Government of India permit emigration to go on.

 7. I shall

BRITISH GUIANA.

7. I shall here give (for the information of the memorialists) a few of the many grievances which the coolies, who have returned from the West Indies, have complained of.

First. Having been kept in the colony for a much longer period than that stipulated for on their departure from India, and, further, having been detained for weeks at the port of embarkation, in the West Indies, waiting for the ship to arrive which was to bring them back to India, and having, in many instances, in consequence of this detention and loss in wages, gone back again to the estates, and given up the idea of returning to India.

Secondly. Having been refused back-passages, unless they could show that they were possessed of money, those who had none being obliged to borrow from their comrades, on the understanding that it should be refunded on their arrival in Calcutta, and many, who could not effect such an arrangement, were obliged to remain behind. Thus a large number of the coolies, who have appeared in the lists as having brought back money, had actually not one shilling.

Thirdly. The length of the engagement, numbers having been compelled to enter into five-years' contracts, much against their inclination; and that in many instances also their females had been compelled to enter into engagements contrary to their wishes.

Fourthly. The losses sustained by them on their remittances, which could not have happened had they been allowed to bring their savings in specie; and such was the discontent among the coolies who returned by the "Hamilla Mitchell," that Mr. Eales, the Acting Agent, was obliged to take a separate house for them, away from the depôt, in order that they should not mix with intending emigrants, and by their statements deter others from going, who were on the eve of embarkation.

Fifthly. The time they are detained in Calcutta, owing to the above arrangement, waiting before they get their money, there has been upwards of 30 casualties already from cholera, among those who returned by the "Eveline." These and many other minor matters make the West-India emigration anything but attractive; added to which, the length of the voyage there and back.

8. The coolies who go to the Mauritius earn the same rate of wages, if not higher, than those who go to the West Indies; and they can return from that colony, if they please to do so, within one year after their arrival, by paying the usual fine, which they can easily save, besides the price of their passage back to India, in the course of the twelve months. Contrast the above with the case of a man who goes to the West Indies. The time on shipboard, for which he receives no pay; the low rate of wages now ruling; the heavy fine which he would have to pay were he desirous of returning to India before the expiration of his engagement; the price of his passage back to Calcutta, seven times the amount of that from the Mauritius. These, if put together, could not be effected, even by a steady labourer, under five years of hard work.

9. If the memorialists will take these matters into their consideration, they cannot be surprised at the coolies preferring the Mauritius; and I think also that they cannot help admitting that the censure which they have been pleased to lavish so unsparingly upon me was not only unjust but premature. And what is more, I may add for their information that if the Protector's office were to explain to the coolies as minutely as they are expected to do, every particular connected with the West Indies, the colonists would not obtain anything near the number of people they now receive.

10. I can most conscientiously say that I have endeavoured by every means in my power to secure emigrants for the West Indies, and immediately on the receipt (on the 1st of January last) of Sir Frederic Rogers' private letter of the 20th November informing me that a large number of emigrants were required this season for the West Indies (the official letters did not arrive till one month afterwards), every available recruiter was put in requisition to collect people. I myself, although suffering from severe sickness at the time, was unwilling to quit my post until absolutely compelled to do so from the fear that the West India emigration might suffer by my absence. However, every exertion was made by my establishment to forward as large a number of people as could possibly be obtained, and the result has been much more satisfactory than I could reasonably have expected at the beginning of the season, eight vessels altogether having been despatched, the Mauritius emigration going on at the same time without any interruption.

If these facts are doubted by the memorialists who complain of my negligence, they can ascertain the truth or otherwise by forwarding this report to any friend of theirs in Calcutta for inquiry.

11. In conclusion, with respect to the scanty notices which I have given the Commissioners of my prospects, I may be allowed to say that when I had any authentic information to give them, I never failed to report it, and that I have all along been unwilling to hold out hopes which might not be realised.

(signed) *T. Caird*,
Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 34. —

No. 34.

(No. 28.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse. 29 July 1858.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 July 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 5th ultimo, No. 64,* respecting the arrival of the "Cambodia" in British Guiana with immigrants from Calcutta.

* Page 45.

I transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom I directed your Despatch to be referred.

Enclosure. 22 July 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 34.

Encl. in No. 34.

Sir, Emigration Office, 22 July 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letters of the 10th and 14th instant, enclosing Despatches which announce the arrival in British Guiana of the emigrant ship "Cambodia," and in Trinidad of the emigrant ship "Saladin."

2. Both these vessels sailed from Calcutta, and both had a large mortality on the voyage. In the "Cambodia," 38 died out of 349, equal to 10·80 per cent. In the "Saladin," 51 out of 387, equal to 13·17 per cent. Among the deaths were, in the former ship eight infants, and in the latter seven.

3. Both ships are said to have been well adapted for the service, and well ventilated; and the master, officers, and surgeon are said to have done everything in their power for the people. The principal diseases on board the "Cambodia" were cholera, diarrhœa, and dysentery; on board the "Saladin," diarrhœa and dysentery. They are traced in the former case to cholera, existing in the depôt at the time of embarkation; in the latter, to many of the coolies having been collected from the swampy jungles round Calcutta. The use of biscuit in the place of "choorah," (a substitution made, it will be remembered, by the Indian authorities,) is again complained of in both ships; and in the case of the "Cambodia" it is also alleged that the privies were improperly placed on board. Both vessels appear to have had fair weather and average voyages; the "Cambodia" having been 101, the "Saladin," 96, or according to the Emigration Agent, 98 days, on the voyage.

4. I would submit that copies of these reports should be sent to the Government of India with reference to the inquiry which they were requested to institute into the mortality in ships from Calcutta in 1857. And there is such a general concurrence of opinion as to the ill effects of biscuit on the emigrants, that their attention should be called to the propriety of returning at once to the native food, and to the possibility of so packing it as to avoid an unnecessary waste by exposure to the air of what is not immediately consumed.

5. In respect to the general question I am afraid we cannot expect that emigration from Calcutta will ever be carried on without a considerable mortality. Governor Wodehouse justly remarks that Calcutta is never quite free from cholera, and that to insist on perfect health at the depôt would be tantamount to stopping the emigration altogether. We have had ample experience, moreover, that even in this country when cholera prevails, no medical examination will suffice to keep it out of emigrant ships. In ships chartered by us in 1849 and 1853 the emigrants of which had been several days in our depôt before sailing, cholera broke out repeatedly a few days after sailing, and the ships in several instances put back in consequence. It can hardly be expected that the Indian coolie, more predisposed than the European and less likely to take notice of the premonitory symptoms, will escape when brought within the range of infection.

6. Much, however, may be done by a careful attention to the sanitary state of the depôt; to the health of the emigrants before they are received, and to their condition at the time of embarkation. It is impossible to read the reports of the ships in which great mortality has prevailed, without adopting the conclusion to which the Colonial authorities have universally come, that the origin of the evil is in the state of the emigrants before they embark. After a ship is fairly at sea, cholera is not likely to be generated in it, if the people are properly fed and the ship well ventilated and kept clean. It is the latent disease brought on board with them which is to be dreaded, and against that, the most careful precautions should be taken.

I am not aware of any reason for supposing that the depôt at Calcutta is naturally unhealthy or that its sanitary condition is neglected by the Emigration Agent or his officers. But the point is so important that the attention of the Committee of Inquiry might perhaps be

BRITISH GUIANA.

be specially called to it. If any defects exist, no time should be lost in remedying them. It is impossible to regard without great apprehension the prevalence of so large a mortality in this emigration, notwithstanding the care which is taken in the fitting and ventilation of the ships, and the feeding and medical attendance of the people.

I have &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*

— No. 35. —

No. 35.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
17 August 1858.
* Page 53.

(No. 37.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 August 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 18th June, No. 75,* reporting on the terms upon which the savings of the return coolies, by the "Hamilla Mitchell," were received.

I transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on this subject.

Enclosure, 7 August 1858.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 35

Enclosure in No. 35.

Sir, Emigration Office, 7 August 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of 28th ultimo, enclosing a Despatch from the Governor of British Guiana, on the subject of the payment of the savings of the coolies who returned to India in the "Hamilla Mitchell."

2. Governor Wodehouse reports, that having made inquiry into the subject, he has been informed that the return coolies by the "Hamilla Mitchell" deposited their savings according to the arrangement suggested by him in July 1857. This fact we had already ascertained from Mr. G. Austin, the Immigration Agent of British Guiana, and had, in consequence, received the Secretary of State's authority to direct the Emigration Agent at Calcutta to pay the emigrants the difference between the current rate of exchange in the West Indies and the actual value in India of the silver dollar deposited by them. Nothing more, therefore, remains to be done on this point.

3. Governor Wodehouse adds, that he continues to think the plan suggested by him for the payment of these savings a good one; and that the colony would receive more injury from the dissatisfaction of the people, than could be compensated by the saving of a few rupees. On this point it is only necessary to observe, that the plan suggested by Mr. Wodehouse is that actually in practice at the present moment; and that unless it should be found too troublesome to work, it will probably be continued.

I have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*

— No. 36. —

No. 36.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
18 August 1858.
† Page 58.

(No. 39.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 18 August 1858.

I have to acquaint you that, in compliance with the request made in your Despatch of the 24th June, No. 81,† I have authorised the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to instruct their Emigration Agents in India to despatch if practicable, 4,300 coolie emigrants to British Guiana; of which number not more than 2,350 are to be sent from Madras.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 37. —

No. 37. Right Hon. Sir E. B Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse. 13 Sept. 1858.

(No. 48.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 13 September 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 7th July, No. 88,* and I have to convey to you Her Majesty's confirmation and allowance of the Ordinance passed by yourself and the Court of Policy, intituled, "An Ordinance for the Encouragement of Immigration from China." †

I transmit to you for your information a copy of a correspondence with the West India Committee on the subject.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

* P. 61.

† *Vide* Appendix, No. 8, p. 509.

Enclosure 1.

Enclosure 2.

Enclosure 1, in No. 37.

Encl. 1, in No. 37.

Sir, Downing-street, 7 September 1858.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. B. Lytton to acquaint you that he has received from the Governor of British Guiana a copy of a letter he addressed to yourself and other gentlemen on the 6th of July with reference to the Ordinance passed by the Court of Policy (No. 17 of 1858) for the encouragement of immigration from China.

I am to request that you will inform Sir E. Lytton whether you have any observations to make upon the provisions of this Ordinance before a decision shall be taken upon it.

Stephen Cave, Esq. (signed) *Carnarvon.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 37.

Encl. 2, in No. 37.

West India Committee Rooms, Walbrook House,

Sir, 9 September 1858.

IN the absence from town of Mr. Stephen Cave, I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Lord Carnarvon's letter of the 7th instant on the subject of the British Guiana Ordinance (No. 17 of 1858) for the encouragement of immigration from China, and to state that in the opinion of the Committee for conducting this immigration, his Excellency Governor Wodehouse has quite entered into the spirit of the arrangement made by Lord Stanley, and that the clauses in the Ordinance, particularly those inserted for the protection of the colony, appear to be unobjectionable and calculated to promote the successful issue of the undertaking.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Thos. Daniel Hill,*
Member of the Committee for Chinese Immigration.

The Right Hon. Sir E. L. Bulwer Lytton, Bart., M.P.
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 38. —

No. 38. Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse. 17 Sept. 1858.

(No. 49.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 September 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 19th June, No. 78,‡ forwarding the report of the Immigration Agent General, and of the Health Officer on the ship "Clarendon," showing that a great mortality had occurred amongst the Indian immigrants on board that ship during her passage from Calcutta to British Guiana.

‡ Page 53.

I transmit to you for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, on the subject of the mortality which had occurred on board the "Clarendon," as well as on board other ships from Calcutta, together with a copy of a letter which I have caused to be addressed to the Secretary of State for India, calling attention to the mortality, and to the doubts which it must throw on the future prospects of emigration from Calcutta, unless the number of deaths can be largely reduced during the next season.

11 August 1858.

7 Sept. 1858.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 1, in No. 38.

Encl. 1, in No. 38.

Sir, Emigration Office, 11 August 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letters of 23d and 28th ultimo, enclosing reports from the Governors of Trinidad, British Guiana, and the Windward Islands, on the coolie passenger ships "Saladin," "Clarendon," and "Fulwood." As the principal feature in these despatches is the mortality which occurred among the coolies on the voyage, it will be most convenient to embrace them in one report.

2. The mortality on board the "Saladin," amounting to 51 out of 387=13·17 per cent., formed part of the subject of my report of 22d ultimo. From the further Despatch now received, it appears, that a case of cholera occurred on the evening of the day that the ship got to sea, but that for 18 days afterwards no further cases occurred; that the whole number of deaths from cholera was six; that there were numerous cases of dysentery and diarrhœa, the former in its chronic stage; that the coolies, at the medical examination before embarkation, had, nevertheless, denied all symptoms of the disease; that on the voyage they were generally prone to conceal their illness, and did not resort to medical aid till too late. The surgeon attributes the mortality, first, to the sanitary condition of the coolies when put on board, and second, to the use of biscuit as an article of dietary. The Governor reports, that the condition of the coolies when landed was such as to prove that they had been treated with very great care and kindness by the officers in charge, and that he had in consequence awarded to the officers a gratuity of half a dollar a head on those landed alive, according to former regulations, instead of the gratuity of one dollar a head on those embarked, less 25 dollars a head on those who died on the voyage, or were sent to hospital on arrival, as prescribed by Mr. Labouchere's Despatch of 25th May 1857. As the higher gratuity was granted in consideration of special merits on the part of the master and officers, and, therefore, falls within the principles suggested in our report on this subject of 2d May 1857, I would submit that it should be sanctioned.

3. The "Clarendon," a screw steamer, embarked her emigrants on the 7th and sailed from Calcutta on 9th March, and arrived in British Guiana on 6th of June, after a voyage of 89 days. The number embarked was 422, and the number of deaths on the voyage 89, equal to 21 per cent. The first death occurred on the 10th March, the day after sailing, and before the end of that month the number of deaths was 50, of which 29 were from cholera, and 18 from diarrhœa and debility. The mortality among adult males was equal to 11·42 per cent., and among adult females to 19·42 per cent. The Immigration Agent reports, that after the most rigid examination, there is no ground for attributing blame to the surgeon or officers of the ship, and the Health Officer states, that the ship was clean and abundantly ventilated, and that the people who had arrived were in excellent condition. The Governor points out, that the mortality is to be attributed, principally, to cholera; that it cannot reasonably be supposed to have been caused by the voyage, and that probably as many would have died in India had they remained there.

4. The "Fulwood" sailed from Calcutta on the 26th February, with 402 souls on board, and arrived at Grenada on 22d May, with 362, having lost on the voyage 40, or nearly 10 per cent. The surgeon states, that many of them were embarked "in a miserable condition, weak and emaciated—I can say they were put on board to die;" that on pointing out their state to the surgeon of the depôt, he was told that "they were naturally so;" that many were embarked whom he had not previously examined; that the principal disease was chronic dysentery and diarrhœa; that those attacked would conceal their sickness as long as possible, and that many, from a refusal to take the food ordered for them, died of exhaustion. He reports favourably of the dietary, and says that the people were well pleased with the biscuits served out to them for breakfast, and he adds, that the master and officers treated the people with the utmost kindness. The Immigration Agent reports, that the people were landed "in most excellent condition, stout, hale, and strong;" that the ship was clean and sweet, and had ample accommodation, and that the arrangements on board were, in all respects, satisfactory. The Lieutenant Governor and Council were so satisfied with the manner in which the people had been treated on the voyage, that they granted to the master a gratuity of 50 *l.*, and to the surgeon (in addition to his stipulated remuneration), a gratuity of 25 *l.*

5. We have now received reports of the arrival of all the ships which sailed during the season of 1857–58 from Calcutta, with the exception of one ship, the "Salsette." The mortality will be seen from the following table:—

NAME OF SHIP.	COLONY.	Number Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Per-centage of Mortality.
Bucephalus	Guiana	396	13	3·2
Cambodia	Ditto	343	38	11
Clarendon	Ditto	421	89	21·1
Wellesley	Trinidad	421	30	7·1
Ellenborough	Ditto	414	23	5·5
Saladin	Ditto	386	51	13·2
Fulwood	Grenada	402	40	9·9
	TOTAL	2,783	284	10·20

The

The result is that, upon an emigration of 2,783, there has been a mortality of 284, or 10·20 per cent., the lowest rate having been 3·2 in the "Bucephalus;" the highest 21·1 in the "Clarendon;" the average mortality is considerably lower than that of 1856–57, which amounted to 17·26; but it is very much higher than that of earlier years.

6. It will be remembered that in consequence of the great mortality last year the East Indian Government appointed Dr. Mouat, the Inspector of Government Dispensaries at Calcutta, to inquire into the causes of it. We had expected to receive his report before this, but the pressure of affairs in Calcutta has no doubt delayed it. There is, however, reason to believe that it may be very shortly received, and in the meantime it would not be desirable to come to any final conclusions, or to issue any peremptory orders on the subject in this country.

7. But the subject is so important to the future continuance of the emigration, and to the well-being of the West Indian colonies, that it is impossible not to endeavour to deduce from the materials before us, imperfect though they be, some conclusions which may have a practical bearing. First, then, it seems clear that the mortality is not attributable to any deficiency in the ships employed, or to any want of care and attention in the surgeon and officers. This is proved by the reports on the three ships more particularly under consideration, in all of which the goodness of the ship and the exertions of the surgeon and officers are noticed with special commendation.

8. Secondly, the use of biscuit in the dietary is denounced by some of the surgeons as a cause of sickness in the ships where the mortality has been large. But, on the other hand, biscuit is as much used on board the ships in which there is the smallest mortality; and also in the Madras emigration, in which the mortality is almost nominal; and it will have been seen that while some of the surgeons state that the coolies would not eat biscuit, the surgeon of the "Fulwood" reports that those on board that ship liked it very much. The difference may perhaps arise from the different districts from which the coolies have been drawn. Those who have been accustomed, like the Bengalees, to rice, which is a very bulky food, may probably suffer when put on the more concentrated and less digestible biscuit, as is often the case with Irish and Scotch emigrants who have been accustomed to potatoes. Those who come from the interior, and who, I understand, live principally on meal, may be better prepared to digest the biscuit. This is a question which belongs more properly to the local authorities, who are acquainted with the constitution and habits of the coolies, and who originally suggested the biscuit dietary, than to us, and their attention has been repeatedly directed to it. If it is really the case that the fitness of the dietary depends on the district from which the emigrant is drawn, the obvious course would be to place those from the same district in the same ship, and the same part of it, and to vary the dietary accordingly.

9. Thirdly. A more probable cause of mortality, and one more difficult to deal with, is the state of the people when they embark. The mortality in the "Clarendon" certainly arose from this cause; and the report of the surgeon of the "Fulwood" would seem to show that those put on board that ship were in a very unfit state to go to sea. On the other hand, it must be borne in mind, as I have observed in my report of 22d ultimo, that cholera and dysentery in their early stages are very difficult of discovery; that they may not exist when the people are put on board, but be developed by the change of dietary and sea sickness; that when they first make their appearance they are probably not recognised by the people, or if recognised, are concealed; and consequently that, although it may be true that disease is brought on board from the depôt, it does not necessarily follow that blame, therefore, attaches to the authorities of the Emigration Office. At the same time, it cannot be denied that the intelligence which reaches us respecting cooly ships, and our own experience in emigration from the United Kingdom, point alike to this as the most probable cause of mortality on the voyage. The only effectual way of dealing with it, as it appears to me, would be to collect and retain the people in the depôt for a longer period before their embarkation; and thus to obtain a knowledge of their constitutions and state of health, and to some extent to habituate them to the dietary they will have to use on board ship. The expense thus incurred would be inconsiderable compared with the loss from deaths on the voyage, irrespective of the disrepute which so great a mortality must bring on the whole service.

10. Another cause of mortality has been suggested in the increase of the women and children on board. To a certain extent, such a result is inevitable. The real question is, whether the increase is beyond the proportion which might fairly be expected. With reference to this point, I annex three tables: the first showing the proportion of women and children, and the rate of mortality in each of the seasons since 1850–51 inclusive; the second showing in detail the proportion of women and children, and the rate of mortality in each of the ships despatched in 1856–57; and the third showing the same particulars during the past season. The first return appears to show what might have been expected, that with the increased proportion of women and children, there was an increased mortality, but not in the earlier years to such an extent as to explain the mortality of the last two seasons; but the detailed tables for the last two years show that the greatest mortality was not in the ships which contained the greatest number of women and children, and are, therefore, inconsistent with the supposition that the mortality was attributable to them. At the same time, a large number of children, especially if under six or seven years of age, must be as undesirable in a sanitary point of view in Indian as in English emigration; and it would, therefore, be advisable that

Sub-Enclosure 1.
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the Emigration Officer should, as far as possible, exclude families having more than a certain proportion of young children. But his doing so will necessarily impede him in filling his ships; and it would, therefore, be inexpedient to lay down in this country any peremptory rule on that point.

11. On a full consideration of the reports received from the West Indies, there can, I think, be no doubt that the main object to which the attention of the Emigration Agent at Calcutta should be directed, is the health of the people in the depôt, and at the moment of embarkation. Next in importance to this is the number of young children and the dietary. Whether there would be any serious difficulty in carrying into effect the recommendations which I have submitted on these points, or whether better arrangements can be made, must be for the decision of the Indian authorities. But I would recommend that copies of the reports on the "Saladin," "Clarendon," and "Fulwood," should be communicated to the Government of India, with a request that they may be submitted to Dr. Mouat. I propose to communicate to the Emigration Agent at Calcutta the substance of this report, and especially to call his attention to the statement of the surgeon of the "Fulwood," that emigrants who had not passed his medical examination were put on board that ship. He will also be instructed, with reference to the report on the "Clarendon," to transmit to the Immigration Agent in the colony to which a ship proceeds full particulars of the immigrants embarked, with a certified statement of their numbers and classification. More than this, it seems scarcely desirable to do until we shall have had an opportunity of seeing Dr. Mouat's report, and comparing the results at which he has arrived with those which have been elicited in the West Indies and here.

I have, &c.
(igned) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—Since the above was written, I have received your letter of yesterday's date, enclosing a communication from Mr. W. S. Lindsay on the subject of the mortality on board the "Clarendon." Mr. Lindsay's letter adds nothing to the facts reported from the colony; but as he announces his intention to prefer a claim on the part of the owners for freight for the whole number put on board in Calcutta, instead of for the number landed in the colony, it is better at once to point out that such a claim would be inconsistent with the terms of the charterparty, and with the policy which has guided the Government in all emigration conducted under their immediate control, and therefore entirely inadmissible.

T. W. C. M.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure 1, in No. 38.

RETURN showing Proportion of Women and Children embarked in the Ships from *Calcutta* to the *West Indies*, in 1850-51 and following Years, and the Per-centage of Mortality on the Voyage.

YEAR.	Proportion of Women to Men.	Proportion of Children and Infants to Adults.	Per-centage of Mortality on whole Numbers Embarked.
1850-1 - - -	9·09	5·11	3·61
1851-2 - - -	16·93	10·89	4·45
1852-3 - - -	23·96	16·53	5·60
1853-4 - - -	14·36	7·84	3·30
1854-5 - - -	18·34	7·48	2·75
1855-6 - - -	35·72	10·82	5·74
1856-7 - - -	35·27	14·67	17·26
1857-8 - - -	66·48	29·01	9·10 *

* This is exclusive of the "Salsette," whose arrival has not yet been reported.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure 1, in No. 38.

RETURN showing the Proportion of Women and Children embarked in the Ships from *Calcutta* to the *West Indies*, during the Season 1856–7, and the Mortality on the Voyage.

NAME OF SHIP.	Proportion of Women to Men.	Proportion of Children (including Infants) to Adults.	Per-centage of Mortality on whole Number Embarked.
Wellesley	33·07	13·01	5·7
Bucephalus	33·33	13·09	11·8
Sir R. Seppings	29·94	13·67	20·9
Roman Emperor	32·85	13·81	28·1
Merchantman	40·16	14·92	31·1
Burmah	25·21	13·19	15·
Adelaide	29·10	10·54	8·2
Sir J. Seymour	31·09	13·09	10·1
Granville	64·93	21·65	11·9
Eveline	41·12	18·34	18·6
Scindian	51·92	21·51	20·8
Maidstone	25·37	11·60	24·5

Sub-Enclosure 3, to Enclosure 1, in No. 38.

RETURN showing the Proportion of Women and Children embarked in the Ships from *Calcutta* to the *West Indies*, during the Season 1857–8, and the Mortality on the Voyage.

NAME OF SHIP.	Proportion of Women to Men.	Proportion of Children (including Infants) to Adults.	Per-centage of Mortality on whole Number Embarked.
Wellesley	78·03	36·68	7·3
Fulwood	63·91	26·41	9·9
Clarendon	79·25	34·07	21·1
Saladin	55·72	23·32	13·2
Bucephalus	52·13	23·36	3·2
Ellenborough	63·54	31·84	5·5
Cambodia	76·92	24·27	11·
Salsette	68·96	32·24	Not arrived.

Enclosure 2, in No. 38.

Encl. 2, in No. 37.

Sir, Downing-street, 7 September 1858.

WITH reference to my letter of the 3d ult., I am directed by Secretary Sir E. B. Lytton to transmit you, in order that it may be referred to the Committee of Inquiry at Calcutta, to inquire into the causes of mortality on board the coolie emigrant ships, a copy of a further Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad on the subject of the large mortality that had occurred on board the "Saladin," on its voyage from Calcutta to Trinidad. I am also to transmit to you for the same purpose a copy of a Despatch from the Governor of British Guiana, reporting the arrival of the "Clarendon" in that colony, and a Despatch from the Governor in Chief of the Windward Islands, reporting the arrival of the "Fulwood" at Grenada, both ships from Calcutta, and on board both of which a large mortality had occurred; and further, I am to transmit a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom these Despatches have been referred for their report.

No. 84, 22 June 1858.—No. 78, 19 June 1858.—No. 30, 14 June 1858; 11 August 1858. *Vide* Part II.

Sir E. Lytton has read these and other accounts of the great number of deaths which have taken place on board coolie ships when despatched from Calcutta with the deepest concern, and with extreme dissatisfaction. From the facts which, in connexion with this subject, have been brought before him, he is inclined to come to the conclusion that this mortality is to be traced to the condition of the immigrants before their embarkation, not only as regards the state of their health when put on board, but also as to the class and the advanced age at which many of the immigrants have been embarked; and the remedy would appear likely

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likely to be found in keeping all immigrants in the depôt for a certain time before embarkation, and in declining all who are above a certain age.

The attention of the Committee of Inquiry will, of course, have been directed to these points, and Sir E. Lytton will desire the Land and Emigration Commissioners to instruct the agents in India to bear in mind that the sanitary condition of the immigrants is the first object to be attended to, and that they, the agents, must use their utmost endeavours to prevent the embarkation of coolies in whom there may be the slightest suspicion of the seeds of cholera, and at the same time to inform the agents in question that Her Majesty's Government will hold them responsible for strictly adhering to all regulations that may be laid down for their guidance.

Sir E. Lytton would much regret if Her Majesty's Government should find themselves compelled to impose such restrictions on this emigration as may have the effect of reducing the number of immigrants the agents may be able to embark to meet the demands of the West India Colonies; but he feels that the very continuance of the immigration must be brought into doubt unless the rate of mortality which has taken place on board some of the vessels sailing from Calcutta can in future be much diminished.

I am, &c.

Sir George R. Clerk, K. C. B. (signed) *H. Merivale.*

— No. 39. —

(No. 54.)

No. 39. Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse. 29 Sept. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 September 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 8th ultimo, No. 103,* in reply to certain complaints reported by Mr. Caird to have been made by coolies on their return to India.

* Page 67.

I have to acquaint you that I am of opinion that you have satisfactorily disposed of the allegations reported by Mr. Caird.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 40. —

(No. 56.)

No. 40. Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse. 30 Sept. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 30 September 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 24th ult. No. 94,* reporting your selection of Mr. Hunt Marriott, for the appointment of Emigration Agent at Calcutta for British Guiana, with a salary of 1,000 *l.* per annum, and transmitting a copy of the instructions with which you had furnished Mr. Marriott.

Page 62.

I have to convey to you my approval of Mr. Marriott's appointment.

As regards your instructions to Mr. Marriott, I transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, in which they make various suggestions for defining in future the duties of the several Emigration Agents in India.

6 September 1858. Enclosure.

I see no reason to object to any of the suggestions; but as it is not proposed that the new arrangements should take effect before the 1st of April next, I shall be glad to receive any observations you may wish to offer upon them, before a final decision shall be taken.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 40.

Enclosure in No. 40.

Sir, Emigration Office, 6 September 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of the 21st and 31st ultimo, enclosing respectively a Despatch from the Governor of British Guiana, in which he reports the appointment of Mr. Marriott as Emigration Agent at Calcutta for that Colony, and the copy of one from the Governor of Trinidad, also reporting the appointment of Mr. Johnston, to be Agent at Calcutta, and Mr. Warner to be Agent at Madras, for Trinidad.

2. As the latter appointments are approved by Sir E. Lytton, I do not see that Mr. Keate's Despatch requires any observation from me.

3. Mr.

3. Mr. Wodehouse explains that it is thought inexpedient at present to commence emigration from Bombay, and that the Madras emigrants are not popular with the planters. No agent will therefore be appointed at either port. But Mr. Wodehouse requests that emigration from Madras may be carried on on the usual terms, through Mr. Franklin.

4. Mr. Marriott is appointed to the Calcutta agency, receiving a salary of 1,000 *l.*. with his travelling expenses, and with passages from Demerara to Calcutta, for himself and his family. It is desired that he may be furnished by this Board with credentials and instructions, and with passages to Calcutta by the packet of the 4th instant, for himself and six coolies who accompany him. We have already requested that he may be furnished with letters to the authorities in India, and have received authority to provide him with a passage to India by the packet of the 20th instant. Mr. Wodehouse forwards a copy of the instructions which Mr. Marriott has received in British Guiana, and it remains to consider what further directions he ought to receive in this country.

5. The Colonial instructions direct his attention to various points, rather by way of securing his attention to them, than with a view of fettering his discretion. He is to employ as collectors, at fair rates of pay, the coolies sent out with him; he is to take measures to prevent British Guiana from being outbid by other colonies; he is to use his best efforts to secure the health of the coolies, and especially is authorised to establish, if necessary, a depôt, at some distance from Calcutta; he is to furnish the required number of women; he is to report to the Colonial Government, and is to ascertain the effect on immigration of extending the terms of residence to 10 years, and whether the coolies would be inclined to receive a grant of land in lieu of a back passage.

6. The following are the points on which his instructions prescribe his relations to this Board. He is directed to obtain from us copies of our charterparties now in use, with such directions in respect to the management of cooly ships as we may think fit to give; he is to co-operate with us in measures calculated to reduce the mortality, and is to obtain "such letters to the Government of India as will ensure" not only the co-operation of the authorities, but "his being supplied from time to time with the necessary funds;" he is to render quarterly accounts of his expenditure to the Colony and to this Board, and to notify any advances to him made by the Government of India, in order that the amount may be remitted to us.

7. It will be observed from these parts of his instructions which are just cited, that Mr. Marriott is intended to stand to this Board and the Colony in a relation very different from that which Mr. Caird has occupied. It is impossible that this should be otherwise. One agent acting for all colonies alike is almost necessarily under the orders of a single authority which can only be the Home Government. But agents acting, and in some degree competing, on behalf of different colonies, must be allowed greater discretion and a more immediate connexion with those by whom the mode and degree of their competition, and the precise direction of their efforts is to be determined.

8. It is for the Secretary of State now to determine, what those new relations are to be, not only for British Guiana but for Trinidad and Jamaica, which have both adopted, or are about to adopt, the system of separate agents.

9. It appears to me that they should more nearly approach those which subsist between the Local Government of Mauritius and the Indian Emigration Agents of that Colony. In Mauritius the agent receives his instructions almost entirely from the local authorities, they and he being alike under the obligation to report their proceedings to the Home Government, and to conform to such general principles as are laid down by the Secretary of State. The Colonial Government communicate of course with the Colonial Office, the Emigration Agents at Calcutta and Madras (in matters falling under the cognizance of the Home Government) with this Board. Freights are paid by the Colonial Government. Through what channel the agent receives his salary and "Indian expenses" I am not aware.

10. Following to a certain extent this precedent, it appears to me that certain rules should at the commencement of the emigration, and from time to time, be communicated by the Secretary of State to the Governor of British Guiana, or by this Board, under authority of the Secretary of State, to the Emigration Agent, subject to which rules the conduct of the emigration should be determined by the orders which the agent might receive from the Governor of the Colony.

11. To secure the propriety of these orders, copies of all official communications addressed by the Colonial authorities to the Agent should be communicated to the Secretary of State, and copies of all official communications addressed by the Agent to the Colonial authorities should be communicated to this Board. The usual reports would, of course, continue to be made of the chartering, despatch, and arrival of ships, with special notice of any important circumstances.

12. The amount of the annual immigration would of course be subject to the approval of the Secretary of State.

13. With regard to the supply of funds, it appears to me very doubtful whether the intervention of this Board is at all desirable. Freights are now made payable by the Governors of British Guiana and Trinidad, not by us; and the officer who collects in India is now to be in immediate communication with those whose money he expends. I would suggest, therefore, in the first place, that he should be entirely responsible for his expenditure to the Colonial Government, who should be left to prescribe the mode of audit by which the propriety of that expenditure is to be secured; and next, I would suggest the question whether, instead of transmitting funds as at present through this Board and the Indian Government, the Colonial Government ought not to be left to make their own arrangements for the transmission to India of such funds as Mr. Marriott may require there. Our services will remain

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at the Agent's disposal for the formal act of taking up such ships as in his opinion may safely be engaged in England; the freight, as I have said, being payable by the Colonial Government, and not by us.

14. With regard to the conduct of emigration, it appears to me that the control of the collection and shipment of emigrants may remain (as practically it is), under the control of the Indian Law (No. 21, of 1844), and the Indian Executive. The rule regulating the proportion of women is the only one which occurs to me as one on which it is at present necessary for the Secretary of State to insist.

15. The duties of reducing, as far as possible, the number of old persons, of refusing absolutely all who are in ill health; of keeping a vigilant watch on the maistries; of preventing the use of misrepresentation or undue influence; and of abstaining absolutely from any form of coercion, are so obvious that they only need to be indicated.

16. With regard to the voyage, the existing arrangements should be adopted. Mr. Marriott should use substantially our existing form of charterparty; should place on board an European surgeon; and the number of topozes or interpreters now required, and should give the surgeon the instructions now in use. Any alteration in these respects should be subject to the approval, and, if material, the precedent approval of this Board.

17. It should be part of the Emigration Agent's duties to see that return coolies are properly cared for on their arrival, and receive the money to which they are entitled on account of their savings.

18. These suggestions, it appears to me, comprise or draw attention to all that is at present necessary to be decided. The Secretary of State would, of course, however, retain the power to give any directions whatever hereafter which seemed necessary to secure the welfare of the coolies on the proper conduct of the emigration.

19. With regard to Madras, I am inclined to think that the Colonial Government should be left to make its own arrangements. If they choose to continue the existing Agent, they will be at liberty to make the requisite communications to him. Trinidad has already appointed a separate Agent at Madras; and all the three great importing colonies proposed to do so at Calcutta. It would be inconvenient, therefore, to leave in existence a mere exceptional relic of the superseded mode of proceeding.

20. I would, however, submit, that none of these alterations should be brought into practical effect till the close of the present season on the 1st of March next. Considering the time and labour which is necessary to bring a new machinery into play, it is impossible that the new agent could with advantage to the colony, take the collection of emigrants out of the hands of Mr. Eales during the present season. I would therefore suggest that this Board should be authorised to inform both Mr. Eales and Mr. Franklin that their services will not be required for Jamaica, British Guiana, or Trinidad, after the termination of the present season. The actual termination is the 1st of March; but as there will probably be matters of account to settle, and perhaps even a late ship to despatch after that date, the period may perhaps be deferred to the 1st of April.

21. Mr. Franklin's engagement will thus simply expire; and I presume that Mr. Caird's salary will, after the 1st of April next, be reduced to what it was while he was acting for Mauritius only, *i. e.* 1,200 *l.* per annum. How he is to be remunerated for his services to the lesser West India Colonies, for which he will still act (Grenada, St. Lucia, and perhaps St. Vincent), may be best considered when it appears what supply these colonies will require for the season 1859–60.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

— No. 41. —

No. 41.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
11 October 1858.
* Page 175.

(No. 59.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse.*

Sir, Downing-street, 11 October 1858.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 17th ultimo, No. 49,* I transmit to you a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the mortality which had occurred on board the "Salsette" cooly ship, on her voyage from Calcutta to Trinidad.

22 Sept. 1858. Enclosure.

I have to request that you will cause the inquiries suggested by the Commissioners in the 18th paragraph of their letter, to be made amongst the recently arrived coolies in British Guiana.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 41.

Enclosure in No. 41.

Sir, Emigration Office, 22 September 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge your three letters, dated respectively the 11th ultimo, the 23rd ultimo, and the 9th instant, enclosing copies of Despatches from the Governor of Trinidad, with reports upon the mortality which has taken place on board the cooly ship "Salsette," and which considerably exceeds any which has yet taken place.

2. The

BRITISH GUIANA.

2. The "Salsette" left Calcutta on the 16th of March last, with the following numbers on board: 147 men, 100 women, 32 boys, 27 girls, 20 infants, total 326; of whom there died on the passage, 37 men, 39 women, 12 boys, 18 girls, 18 infants, total 124; the mortality being among the different classes embarked in the subjoined proportions, per cent., 251 men, 39 women, 37·5 boys, 66·6 girls, 90 infants, total 38·03.

3. This disastrous result has of course led to an inquiry in the colony, and Mr. Keate's successive Despatches transmit the reports of the Health Officer, the Immigration Agent, and a Committee of Council, together with the evidence on which the opinion of the Committee was based.

4. Before noticing these, I will just observe that the mortality among the females far exceeds that among the males, and that almost all the infants died. On the latter head, I have lately stated that we have endeavoured in recently chartered ships to provide articles which will furnish a better dietary for infants than heretofore has been the case.

5. The opinion of the Committee of Council is that there was no want of care, or deficiency of accommodation on board, but that the mortality arose principally from the inferior condition of the immigrants when placed on board (the Salsette being the last ship of the season, and probably taking the leavings of the rest), and partly from the substitution of biscuit for rice, which has been so often adverted to.

6. Dr. Mitchell enumerates various reasons (including those indicated by the Committee of Council) which he considers have conspired to produce this terrible loss of life. The first is the number of junglers placed on board. The surgeon of the "Salsette" states that as far as he can make out, 120 junglers died out of 223 placed on board, while, of 101 bengalis, only four died. And in the "Saladin," the deaths were principally among the same class. The Health Officer speaks of these persons as inhabiting "swampy jungles" (as their name would suggest). I am informed, however, by Mr. Rivers, surgeon of the "Cambodia," who has treated large numbers of these people in the Calcutta Hospitals, that this is a mistake. They come down, he states, from the hills, which are drier and cooler than the alluvial flats of Calcutta. They become useful labourers, but require an acclimatisation of some months, in the course of which large numbers of them (perhaps ten per cent.) die. I may add that the mortality among the hill coolies (as opposed to those of the plains) has attracted the notice of the immigration agent at Mauritius (*vide* Reports on ships "Soutahdar" and "Blue Jacket"). If Mr. Rivers' account of these people be correct, it has an important bearing on a suggestion of Dr. Mitchell, that the people should be kept some time in the depôt as a preparation for the voyage. It is plain that this step (if the neighbourhood of Calcutta is unhealthy for them) might cause more mortality in the depôt than it saved on the ship.

7. The second cause of disease is, in Dr. Mitchell's opinion, the supply of biscuit to which, as it has been frequently noticed, I need not again allude.

8. The third is the indisposition of the coolie to call in the aid of the surgeon.

9. The fourth is the new mode of fitting which throws the coolie's berths into the way of draughts; this has also been frequently noticed.

10. The fifth is inadequate ventilation, an inadequacy which must always exist in some degree, but which we are constantly endeavouring to remedy without exposing the immigrants to the opposite risk, arising from currents of cold air.

11. Sixthly, Dr. Mitchell suggests that the hospital might be placed on the upper decks.

12. Seventhly, that the coolies should be kept in the depôt for some considerable period, in order to inure them to the dietary, &c., prescribed on shipboard, a suggestion which I have already noticed, but on the propriety of which the Indian authorities alone can decide.

13. Eighthly, that the surgeon should speak the native languages, and should have two native apothecaries. Of these two suggestions the former is, I fear, impracticable, unless other and probably more important qualifications are to be waived in order to secure a knowledge of the native languages. A native apothecary, or dispenser of medicines, who could speak English, would be more probably procurable and doubtless useful.

14. Lastly, Dr. Mitchell suggests that more clothing should be supplied.

15. I can only at present suggest that these papers, like others on the same subject, be communicated to the Indian Government, and in order that they may have before them all materials within our reach, I also enclose a communication from Mr. Rivers, a gentleman to whom I have already alluded.

16. Mr. Rivers proposes certain changes of detail in the diet and utensils of the people, the fittings, and the mode of keeping discipline, and of furnishing medical attendance, in the same direction as those suggested by Dr. Mitchell; and he draws attention to a most important circumstance, as it appears to me, that the water is taken from the Hooghly, and not (as it might be) from a tank. Sub-Enclosure 1.

17. There is one other point on which I would suggest that strict inquiry should be made, the treatment of the emigrants while in depôt. Several of the reports forwarded speak of their emaciated state when placed on board (though without any discoverable disease), while they seem in many instances to be landed in a state of health better than would be anticipated from the disease and mortality which prevailed during the voyage. I would suggest that close inquiry should be made, what is the depôt dietary, and whether it is certain that the emigrants get it.

18. On this point the Governors of British Guiana and Trinidad might be desired to cause inquiries to be made among the recently arrived coolies, who, as they are now dispersed, could not certainly agree in any false story.

19. I annex

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19. I annex the copy of a letter which will be sent by this post to the Acting Emigration Agent, in order to secure his attention, as far as possible, to the points noticed in this letter, and in Mr. Murdoch's report of the 11th ultimo.

Sub-Enclosure 2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

COPY OF SUGGESTIONS OF *Doctor Rivers.*

THE system adopted at present, for the comfort and health of the emigrants coming from Calcutta to the West Indies, requires a few improvements, some of which I shall here point out, and if acted on or carried out, will be the means, no doubt, of very great benefit to the people concerned.

1. Hard bread, or biscuit, is at present issued to the coolies coming to the West Indies, for breakfast. This food, taken the first thing in the morning, must be most injurious to people not accustomed to it, as they seldom or ever make use of any thing in their own country beyond rice and dholl for their meals, consequently biscuit must have an injurious tendency in disorganising the tone of the stomach, and of producing bowel complaints, to obviate which I would strongly recommend choora and parched grain, with a little sugar, to be substituted instead. These would be found to agree better with people, whose constitutions and mode of living are so different to those of Europeans.

2. Mutton should, by all means, be issued to the coolies once a fortnight, at least, and pumpkins once a week, not only as a change of diet, but as a preventive to scurvy and dropsy. Potatoes also should be allowed occasionally, but the use of them to be restricted to a few only—commanders should be compelled to take a sufficient quantity of each on board, before leaving, to last the voyage out.

3. The water taken from the Calcutta river, for the use of the coolies, is far from being wholesome, since it must contain a great deal of putrid matter, owing to the dirt and filth thrown into the river daily, exclusive of the dead bodies, of which hundreds are to be seen floating down in a state of putrefaction. To remedy this evil I would suggest, that a small quantity of lime and charcoal be thrown into each cask, or the loll digger tank water taken instead of the river. The river water must be particularly injurious to the junglies or hill people, who make use of the spring water in their own country.

4. With regard to medical comforts, the following should be taken on board for the use of the sick, in addition to the sago, arrowroot, and port wine, viz., a barrel of flour for gruel and cakes, a few dozen tins of preserved meats and soups, and a few dozen bottles of beer. Sago and arrowroot are not at all relished by the sick emigrants, though these are necessary in certain cases. Beer would be beneficial for women deficient of nourishment for their infants, for the want of which many die during the voyage.

5. For culinary purposes, it is indispensably necessary that a few saucepans, of different sizes, a camp kettle, a few tin pots, and about half a dozen German silver spoons be furnished for the hospital use.

6. An hospital should be built up in the middle of the 'tween deck for the accommodation of 12 patients, divided off in the centre, with a bath and closet to each, which would save the sick the trouble of coming on deck, exposed to cold and rain in bad weather.

7. Two competent nurses should be appointed, whose business would be to attend on the sick, as well as to prevent any food being brought into the hospital by the friends of the patients, except such as may be ordered by the surgeon.

8. Six sirdars should also be appointed, to keep the coolies in order, and for the purpose of receiving their rations daily, also six cooks. These men should get a double allowance of food instead of money.

9. The privies for the emigrants' use are at present built up on the main deck. These, in my opinion, would answer better, were they fixed on the outside of the vessel, so as to prevent the accumulation of water and filth on the deck, which should always be kept as dry as possible. The privies, as constructed at present, are most objectionable, not only for the above reason, but on account of the stench arising from them, which cannot be but injurious to the health of the coolies, and particularly to the seamen on board, whose health and comfort ought also to be considered.

10. Bale preserve should be supplied instead of the fruits, which do not keep for any length of time. The preserve answers the same purpose in cases of diarrhœa.

11. An apothecary, or an experienced commander, possessing a knowledge of the Bengalee language, should be appointed to each ship instead of topasses, who are of no manner of use on board. The apothecary could be of very great assistance to the surgeon in the preparation and dispensing of medicines, and could act as an interpreter, as well to the doctor, many of whom are totally ignorant of the native language.

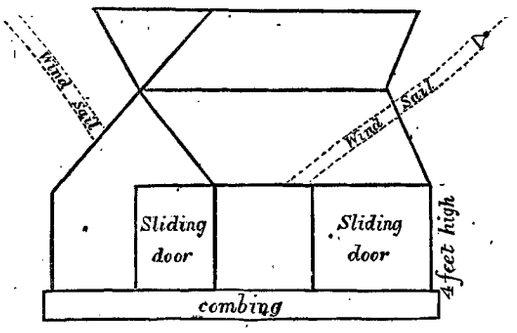
12. A scale of what the surgeon is expected to receive at the captain's table with regard to eatables and drinkables ought most decidedly to be drawn up and put on board, so that no misunderstanding may exist between the commander and doctor.

13. That each hatch shall have a booby-hatch, fitted with sliding-door on each side, and sloping roof. These will be found of very great use in stormy weather in preventing the 'tweendeck from getting flooded with rain and sea, which was the case in the ship I came

in

in last, although well provided with tarpaulins, and every precaution taken. For nearly a week the lower part of the sleeping-deck was not fit for human beings to sleep in, and though we had upwards of sixty gunny bags and a dozen swabs constantly in use the deck could not be kept free of water.

Plan of Booby-hatch.



(signed) *R. Rivers,* Surgeon-Superintendent.

Sub-Enclosure 2.

Government Emigration Board, Park-street, Westminster.

Sir, 22 September 1858.

I AM directed by the Emigration Commissioners to inform you that complete accounts have now been received of the results of the emigration from Calcutta to the West Indies during the season 1857-8. And you will see by the annexed table that the results, though not so lamentable as during the preceding season, are still far from satisfactory. In the "Salsette" in particular, the last ship of the season, the loss of life far exceeded anything which has hitherto taken place. The average mortality is 13·13 per cent.

The inquiries instituted in the colonies show clearly that the mortality is not chargeable on surgeons or captains of ships, but principally on the state in which the emigrants are put on board. This, then, pending the long promised inquiries on the part of the Indian Government is the principal point to which you must direct your attention. The Commissioners feel a difficulty in prescribing to you any specific course in the absence of Dr. Mouat's report, and they do not feel at liberty to anticipate it by any instructions respecting the use of biscuit as an article of diet, or of the new mode of fitting the 'tween decks. They wish, however, to draw your attention to certain points which have struck them as important, and which fall more especially within your own province.

1. On several ships the principal mortality seems to be among a class of persons called Junglies. In the "Salsette," (as far as the surgeon could ascertain), 120 Junglies died out of 223 placed on board, while only four died among the 101 remaining emigrants. It is suggested that the sudden improvement of diet which these people experience on ship board may produce disease (as is not unfrequently the case), and that the chance of such disease would be lessened if they were kept for some time in depôt at Calcutta. On the other hand it is said that Calcutta disagrees with these people more even than the sea voyage. In which case to detain them in depôt would expose them to a greater risk than that from which it saved them. On this point, the Commissioners have not the materials for forming a judgment. They wish you carefully to consider whether a somewhat prolonged detention of the people in depôt under a certain amount of medical observation, would be likely to avert part of the subsequent disease and mortality. If you should think this advisable in a sanitary point of view, you are authorised to incur the requisite expenses.

2. Mr. Caird's attention has been frequently drawn to the statements of ships' surgeons, to the effect that they had not a real veto in the selection of emigrants. This statement is repeated by the surgeon of the "Fulwood," who declares that emigrants were passed without being submitted to his inspection. On this point, the Commissioners would wish to receive a report from you after communication with the medical examiner.

3. The mortality (as might be expected) appears to be greater among females than among males, and greatest of all among infants. This increase of the mortality is an inevitable consequence of an increased female emigration. But the Commissioners wish to know whether you are in the habit of placing on board families with large numbers of very young children, and whether it would be practicable to exclude such families from the emigration. In the Australian free emigration conducted by this Board, no family is allowed to embark (on sanitary grounds), in which there are more than two children below seven years of age or than three under 10.

4. The Commissioners would wish to be informed what is the dietary allowed to coolies in the depôt; who furnishes it (whether a contractor or other person); and what security, by way of inspection or otherwise is taken, that the people receive their proper and full allowances. They would wish you to exercise close vigilance on this point, as the accounts which they receive of the "emaciated" state of the coolies, when embarked, suggests a doubt whether they have been properly treated and fed.

BRITISH GUIANA.

5. You will receive by this post, the copy of a communication addressed to the Commissioners by the surgeon of the "Cambodia." I have already addressed you on the subject of his suggestion respecting the water placed on board.

6. You will take care that in some part of every ship a separate hospital is fitted up for the sick. During the last season this was not done before the ships left Calcutta, and the consequence appears to have been that, though greatly needed, it was not done at all.

7. You will draw the surgeon's attention to the additional articles (preserved eggs, milk and meat), placed on board for the use of children.

8. You are authorised to incur (if it shall seem to you requisite) any reasonable expense in procuring the services of a native dispenser (speaking English) to assist the surgeon. You must take care that the terms of your agreement with any person of this class, are fully set forth in writing, and are perfectly unequivocal, and you will of course communicate them to this Board, and the colonial authorities.

9. You are authorised, if you shall think it useful, to place on board, in charge of the surgeon, a moderate supply of blankets, or other extra clothing, for distribution during the voyage.

I enclose copies of reports on the "Salsette," by the Surgeon of the ship, Mr. Dyer, and by the Immigration Agent, Dr. Mitchell, in which, as you will observe, some of the above suggestions are made.

I have, &c.

C. Eales, Esq. (signed) *S. Walcott*, Secretary.

Encl. 2, in No. 39.

Enclosure 2, in No. 41.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 October 1858.

WITH reference to my letter of the 7th ultimo, I am directed by Sir E. B. Lytton to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, and in order that they may be sent to the Government of India for reference to the Commission of Inquiry at Calcutta, copies of three Despatches from the Government of Trinidad relating to the large mortality that had occurred on board the "Salsette" coolie ship on her voyage from Calcutta to that island, together with a copy of a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom these Despatches were referred.

No. 99, 10 July 1858.—No. 108, 25 July 1858.—No. 115, 9 August 1858; 22 September 1858.
Vide Part II.

I have, &c.

Sir George Clerk. (signed) *H. Merivale.*

— No. 42. —

No 42.
The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
18 October 1858.

(No. 60.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 18 October 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, enclosing copy of one from the Acting Emigration Agent at Madras, in which he reports hopefully of the prospect of obtaining coolie labourers for the West Indies, and adverts to other topics connected with coolie immigration.

11 Oct. 1858.
Enclosure.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 42.

Enclosure in No. 42.

Sir, Emigration Office, 11 October 1858.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for the information of Secretary Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, and for transmission to the Governor of Trinidad, the copy of a letter from Mr. Burton, the Acting Emigration Agent at Madras, reporting the charter by him of the "Roman Emperor," at 9 *l.* 13 *s.* 6 *d.* per adult for the conveyance of coolies to Trinidad.

27 August.
Sub-Enclosure.

2. It will be observed that Mr. Burton speaks hopefully of the prospect of obtaining coolie labourers for the West Indies, although many decline to proceed when they are informed of the period for which they must remain in the West Indies before they will become entitled to free return passages; and perhaps on this account it might be desirable to forward a copy of the letter to British Guiana. In that case it may be desirable that I should mention that the first ships of the season, whether from Calcutta or Madras, will proceed to Trinidad, because this year Trinidad was earlier and British Guiana later than usual in communicating to the Secretary of State their wishes respecting this year's emigration.

I have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. &c. &c. &c. (signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 42.

Sub-Encl. to Encl. in No. 42.

Colonial Emigration Office, Madras,
27 August 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have commenced recruiting for the West Indies, and at this date have 200 emigrants in the depôt. I have chartered the ship "Roman Emperor," Captain J. C. Lamprell, of 793 tons register, at 9*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, for the conveyance of the first batch to Trinidad, together with the services of a European surgeon to proceed in charge; and as I have had large batches come in nearly all the season for the Mauritius, I hope to be able to complete the contingent required from here this season, although several go away when they are told they will have to remain ten years in the colony.

2. I hope, however, to despatch the "Roman Emperor" by the 15th proximo, when you will hear again from me how we are proceeding.

I intend paying the gratuity of 15 rupees for each adult, the same as paid last season, as that is the only inducement to get them to leave this country for so long a period. Trusting this will meet with the approval of the Emigration Commissioners,

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Burton,*
Acting Colonial Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
Secretary, &c., Emigration Commissioners,
London.

P.S.—Copies of the contracts already entered into for the supply of clothing, food in depôt, &c., &c., will be forwarded with my next letter.

— No. 43. —

(No. 61.)

No. 43.
The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
27 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 27 October 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information and guidance, copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners; and I have to request that you will take an early opportunity of remitting the sum of 2,500*l.*, to enable them to meet certain expenses connected with cooly immigration.

Enclosure. 21 October 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 43.

Encl. in No. 43.

Sir,

Emigration Office, 21 October 1858.

With reference to your letter of the 11th of June, from the enclosures of which we learnt that a return cooly ship had been engaged to take Indians from British Guiana to India, we have to observe that we have not received from the colony any remittance in order to enable us to pay the freight of this vessel. That freight will probably amount to about 3,300 *l.*, while the money in our hands on account of British Guiana is only 2,100 *l.*

2. As the claim may possibly be presented towards the end of November, and must be discharged at furthest within thirty days of its presentation, it is requisite that we should be furnished, without delay, with the means of meeting it. And it may be convenient that we should be enabled, at the same time, to meet a demand which will be shortly made upon us by the Government of India for part of the Indian expenses of last season.

3. The sums necessary for the discharge of these two items will together amount to little less than 2,500 *l.*, and we would accordingly beg that a remittance of that amount may be made to us by the earliest opportunity.

	£.
Freight of "White Eagle"	3,300
Indian expenses	1,300
	4,600
Deduct in hand	2,100
£.	2,500

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 44.
The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
2 November 1858.

Enclosure. 17 August 1858.

— No. 44. —

(No. 62.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 2 November 1858.

I TRANSMIT for your information, an extract from a letter from Mr. Eales, the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting favourably on the prospects of cooly immigration into the West Indies for the approaching season.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 44.

Enclosure in No. 44.

(Extract.)

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 17 August 1858.

I FURTHER desire to append copy of a letter to the address of the Honourable Colonial Secretary, on the subject of the advanced state of the supply demanded and the unprecedentedly large influx of people to the depôt, and consequent despatch to Mauritius, which exceeds that of any previous comparative period. I am at a loss to attribute to any specific cause such an unusually large assemblage of applicants for emigration, unless it be from lack of employment or absolute penury, which has prevailed in the disturbed districts from whence the majority of them have issued.

The advanced state of the Mauritius contingent permits me to indulge in the prospect of a promising supply of labour for the West Indies in the approaching season. With this object in view, a body of collectors or recruiters have already been forwarded to the interior, to enable me to fulfil my purpose of despatching a ship on the 1st proximo.

To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Mauritius.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to represent, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the unusually large influx of coolies to the depôt during the past six weeks, as evidenced by the number of vessels despatched within this period, besides a large body of people now awaiting transport at the depôt.

To the present date, the number marginally noted* has been shipped out of the complement demanded from this Presidency for the current year, leaving a balance of 2,597 exclusive of those yet to be supplied under Ordinance 12, and the remnant of last year's requisition. Tonnage is in course of preparation to meet present demands, and the whole of my resources have been put in requisition to despatch the people with all practicable haste after their arrival at the depôt.

In the event of supplies continuing so abundant, I conceive that the quota required from this Presidency will shortly be accomplished; but as I am led to expect a further requisition, as communicated in your letter of 9th February, I shall continue the supply, pending further instructions from his Excellency the Governor, which I now solicit.

The ratio of women despatched averages nearly 38 per cent. of the males; but I trust to augment the number to the given standard before the close of the year.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 2 July 1858.

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* Males - - - - - - - 4,317
Females - - - - - - - 1,665
469 Boys, equal to - - - - 234½
374 Girls, ditto - - - - - 187
TOTAL Adults - - - 6,403½

Under Ordinance 12.
Per ships "Blue Jacket" and "Earl of Sefton:"
Males - - - - - - - 506
Females - - - - - - - 157
52 Boys, equal to - - - - 26
24 Girls, ditto - - - - - 12
TOTAL Adults - - - 701

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 45. —

No. 45. The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse. 26 November 1858. 26 November 1848.

(No. 72.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 26 November 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, with one from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting the arrival of the "White Eagle," with return coolies from British Guiana.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 45.

Encl. in No. 45.

Sir, Emigration Office, 20 November 1858.

WE enclose, for the information of Secretary Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, and for transmission to the Governor of British Guiana, the copy of a letter from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, in which he reports the arrival, on the 24th September, of the "White Eagle," with 315 return coolies, this ship having left British Guiana on the 13th of May. Eight deaths occurred on the voyage, of which the majority are ascribed to the severe weather off the Cape. This circumstance (though the mortality, on the whole, is not large) confirms the propriety of the rule which confines the embarkation of return coolies to about the four last and three first months of the year.

Sub-Enclosure.

2. The coolies seem to have received their savings without any complaint or misunderstanding.

We have, &c.
T. F. Elliot, Esq. (signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
&c. &c. &c. *Frederic Rogers.*

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 45.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
Sir, 7 October 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, of the arrival here, on the 24th ultimo, of the ship "White Eagle," from Demerara, with 249 men and 42 women, 8 boys, 10 girls, and 6 infants, exclusive of one birth on the voyage. They were mostly landed in good condition. Eight deaths occurred during the passage and before landing here, the majority from the severe cold off the Cape, the ship having been driven 300 miles south of the usual track.

The people represented that they had been well treated on the passage, and the provisions of the charterparty appeared to have been complied with duly and efficiently in every particular. The commander has been furnished with the usual certificate to that effect.

Dr. Kearney has likewise received 105 *l.* on account of his return passage, also a bill of exchange on the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners for 158 *l.* due to him as gratuity for 316 souls landed alive, in compliance with the terms of his engagement at Demerara.

The money savings of the coolies have been carefully adjusted, each individual receiving *Rs.* 2. 3. for every dollar deposited in the colony.

I have, &c.
S. Walcott, Esq. (signed) *C. Eales,*
&c. &c. &c. Officiating Emigration Agent.

— No. 46. —

No. 46. The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse. 2 December 1858.

(No. 75.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 2 December 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a correspondence* which has passed between this Department, the Emigration Commissioners, and Mr. W. S. Lindsay, M.P., relative to the coolie emigrant ship "Clarendon."

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

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* Enclosure 1, Mr. Lindsay, 23 July 1858. Enclosure 2, C. O. to Mr. Lindsay, 31 July 1858. Enclosure 3, C. O. to Mr. Lindsay, 16 September 1858. Enclosure 4, Mr. Lindsay, 2 November 1858. Enclosure 5, Emigration Commissioners, 18 November 1858. Enclosure 6, C. O. to Mr. Lindsay, 8 December 1858.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 1, in No. 46.

Encl. 1, in No. 46.

8, Austin Friars, London, 23 July 1858.

Sir,

I AM very glad you have withdrawn the Chinese Passenger Act Amendment Bill, as it appeared to me to be a measure, not merely unsound in principle, but one which, so far from removing the grievances complained of, would only have aggravated the evils and defeated the truly laudable objects which the Government had in view. I am, however, of opinion that the Act of 1855 may be very materially improved; and during the recess I shall venture to lay before you some materials which may be of service, should you be disposed to bring in a measure early next Session.

As you appeared to be much struck with the great mortality among Chinese Emigrants on board ship, and were at a loss to account for it, I may in the meantime bring under your notice a case in which I am interested. The particulars I only received by last mail from my correspondents at Demerara. The auxiliary steam ship "Clarendon" sailed in March last with 421 coolie emigrants from Calcutta to the above named island. These coolies consisted of 175 men, 139 women, and the very large proportion of 107 children and infants. The "Clarendon" is a ship of 935 tons register, is about 240 feet in length overall, and 32 feet in breadth, and has not less than 8½ feet height 'tween decks. She is thus, as you will note, admirably adapted for the conveyance of any description of passengers. In fact she is vastly superior to the usual class of vessels employed in the transport of coolies; and the very depressed state of the freight market was the only reason which induced my correspondents at Calcutta to engage her for a time in so unremunerative a traffic. By the enclosed certified copy of report from the principal officer of health at Demerara, you will note that she was "clean;" that the ventilation, for which she had "abundant means," was perfect; and that the water and provisions are certified as being "very good." Great care appears also to have been taken of the passengers by the surgeon and officers of the ship, yet, in a comparatively short passage, no fewer than 89 emigrants, or about 21 per cent. of the whole number, died, besides two of the crew who were infected by them. Under these circumstances it may seem difficult to account for this great calamity, but in the words of the health officer, the cause is "very apparent." He says, "before embarkation they were already infected with the choleraic poison. Mr. Reid, reporting verbally, that, on visiting the depôt at Garden Reach, he heard Mr. Eales, the Acting Emigration Agent, inquire of one of the attendants, how they had been during the night before;" the reply was, "Very well, Sir, only three deaths;" and the rejoinder was, "Do you call that doing well?" Three of the intended passengers actually died of cholera when in the depôt ready for embarkation, and forty-one during the first six days after they were embarked! This clearly shows that there must have been the most culpable neglect on the part of the officers charged with the embarkation of these emigrants at Calcutta. These officers were surely not justified in putting into any ship, however good, destined for so long a voyage, poor ignorant people infected with cholera; and their conduct, by the enclosed report, is so reprehensible that I trust you will order a full investigation to be made into the circumstances of this truly lamentable affair. The very fact of embarking so large a proportion of children and infants was enough in itself to create disease on board, though this is small in comparison to sending away on a voyage of 12,000 miles 421 human beings, with a fatal disease raging amongst them. On the part of the owners of this ship, I shall claim for the passage money on the whole number embarked, for although the condition of the agreement is that passage money is only to be paid on those landed, and this is a very prudent provision, (and one which, as a rule, I should not like to see altered), yet the embarkation officers were clearly bound to see that the passengers were put on board in good health and condition. Upon this point, as well as upon the others, I cannot but think that you will hold a similar opinion with me, and say that, if the passengers were not put on board in a sound state of health, the owners ought not to be sufferers by the gross neglect of the charterers of their ship, more especially when it is considered that number is as important an element in their calculations, as the rate of passage money. That the number embarked was moderate, will appear by the dimensions of the ship, and the fact that she will carry with ease about the same number of troops. I venture to think that this case in itself proves the necessity for an alteration in the law, in a very different direction from that contemplated.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. S. Lindsay.*

The Right Honourable
Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart., M.P. &c. &c.
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Enclosure 2, in No. 46.

Encl. 2, in No. 46.

Downing-street, 31 July 1858.

Sir,

I AM directed by Sir E. B. Lytton to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d inst., with reference to the mortality which occurred on board the ship "Clarendon," whilst conveying coolie emigrants from Calcutta to British Guiana. The matter is at this time under Sir E. Lytton's consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Carnarvon.*

W. S. Lindsay, Esq.

Enclosure 3, in No. 46.

Encl. 3, in No. 46.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 September 1858.

With reference to my letter of the 31st July, I am directed by Sir E. B. Lytton to acquaint you that much as he regrets the loss which you have sustained from the large mortality which occurred on board the coolie emigrant ship the "Clarendon," on her voyage from Calcutta to British Guiana, he finds upon inquiry that, in reply to your claim to compensation, he must refer you to the terms of the charterparty, which expressly stipulated that payment shall only be made in respect of the emigrants landed alive.

I am to add that a full inquiry will be made in India into the cause of the mortality on board so many of the ships which have been despatched from Calcutta to the West Indies with coolies.

I have, &c.

W. S. Lindsay, Esq. (signed) *Carnarvon.*

Enclosure 4, in No. 46.

Encl. 4, in No. 46.

8, Austin Friars, London,
Sir, 2 November 1858.

During the last two months, I have been out of London busily engaged on the Harbours of Refuge Commission, so that many matters connected with my own business have been obliged to remain unattended to, and amongst others your letter of the 16th September, respecting the coolie emigrant ship "Clarendon."

I have now gone fully into the matter, and on the part of the owners of that vessel I venture to enclose a statement of the facts. On their part I also venture to ask that freight may be paid on the number embarked. It is true that the charterparty "expressly stipulates that payment shall only be made in respect of the number landed alive," (and that is a condition which, I think, it would be inadvisable to alter); but, while it is the duty of an owner to adopt every means in his power to preserve the health of those entrusted to his care, it is no less the duty of those shipping passengers to see that they are put on board in good health, and not "affected with the choleraic poison," as was the case in the present instance. The owners have well and faithfully performed their duty, but the charterers appear to have grossly neglected theirs, and I feel that the owners ought not to suffer loss from the neglect of the charterers. The loss which they have sustained is noted on the enclosed, and I am sure I need only appeal on grounds of equity to a Minister who will, I know, look to the spirit of the agreement, and not to its formal clauses, and who will order a thorough investigation to be made, and grant such redress as he may conceive proper.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (signed) *W. S. Lindsay*, Agent.
Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart., M.P.
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 4, in No. 46.

Statement of Account referred to in Letter of 2 November 1858.

In the early part of the present year, the auxiliary steam-ship "Clarendon," of 935 tons, was tendered for the conveyance of coolies from Calcutta to Demerara, and accepted. The coolies embarked to the number of 175 men, 139 women, and 107 children, and the ship sailed on the 8th March. It was afterwards ascertained that three coolies who ought to have embarked died of cholera in the depôt the previous night, and 89 of those on board died of the same disease during the first 12 days. This fact, which is admitted by the authorities, proves beyond doubt that the coolies were in an unhealthy state, and already affected with cholera before they were embarked. The "Clarendon" arrived on the 5th June at Demerara, and the remainder of the coolies were landed. Certificates were given by the Health Officer at that place that the ship was in every respect good, and fit for the trade in which she was employed, that in fact she was a very superior ship, that the ventilation was as nearly perfect as could be attained on board of any vessel; and that the water and provisions were of the first quality. The report of the medical officer on board proves the same facts, and further states that the passengers received every attention from the commander and his officers. It was, therefore, clearly not the fault of the ship that the great mortality occurred.

The agreement is, that freight was to have been paid on the number landed, as is usual in all cases; but it is with coolies as it is with any other description of cargo. The articles should be sent on board in good condition, and fit for the voyage; and if they are not sent on board in good order, the carrier is never held responsible. The shippers have thus a condition to observe as well as the carriers, and it is unreasonable to suppose that the latter should have the burden of the inattention or the neglect of the former; and although

BRITISH GUIANA.

although in the one case there is, it is true, the letter of the charterparty to go by, there is equally in the other the spirit of it, and the use and wont in such matters.

From the above it is deduced that as the passengers ought to have been embarked sound and healthy, and were not so (the shippers thus violating their contract), and as the owners of the ship did all in their power to carry out the conditions of their charter-party, but were prevented by the fault of the shippers, it was the shippers and not the ship who were actually responsible for the loss.

The Colony of British Guiana,

To S. S. Ship "Clarendon" Owners, Cr.

	£.
To passage-money of 56 adult coolies, deceased at 12 *l.* 10 *s.* - - -	700
Less allowed for provisions unconsumed - - - - - -	98
£.	602

(E. E.)

(signed) *W. S. Lindsay*, Agent.

Encl. 5, in No. 46.

Enclosure 5, in No. 46.

Sir, Emigration Office, 18 November 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 10th instant, enclosing a letter from Mr. Lindsay, who claims payment of the passage-money on those coolies who died in the emigrant ship "Clarendon," during the voyage from Calcutta to Demerara.

2. We have in the first place to state that this application must be finally decided upon by the Governor and Court of Policy of British Guiana. The contract was made between the master of the "Clarendon," on the first part, and "Charles Eales, an Emigration Agent for the Government of British Guiana, of the second part," the stipulations with regard to the payment of passage-money being as follows:—

(11.) "That the money to be paid for the passage and provisioning of the said emigrants shall be for every adult Indian immigrant landed alive 12 *l.* 10 *s.*, and half that sum for each child over one year, no charge being made for children under that age; such payment shall be made according to the age at embarkation, as given in the schedule of emigrants hereinafter mentioned, and the emigrants shall be deemed adults at the age fixed by the law in India at the time of the sailing of the said ship.

(12.) "That the passage-money and other monies to be due in respect of this agreement shall be paid in cash at the current rate of exchange for bills on London at 90 days sight, within 15 days after there shall have been deposited with the Emigration Agent General at the port of disembarkation the following accounts."—Then follows a list of the documents necessary to procure payment of the freight.

3. The document it will be seen makes no reference either to the Secretary of State or to this Board, but Mr. Eales, describing himself as the Agent of British Guiana, simply engages that the Governor of the colony shall pay the freight found to be due. This we presume he did, and probably received a receipt in full for all demands, which would be a legal answer to the claims of the owners.

4. But we are bound to state, that if the application had been made to ourselves on the grounds stated in Mr. Lindsay's letter, we should not have felt justified in entertaining it.

5. The leading facts are these. The "Clarendon" took on board at Calcutta 421 souls, equal to 350½ adults, who, it may be assumed, underwent the usual medical examination. Of these persons, no less than 89 souls, equal to 56 adults, died on the voyage. On these persons no freight was payable, under the 11th article of the charterparty above quoted, and none was paid. It is fully admitted on the part of the Government that these deaths did not occur from any fault of the master and officers of the "Clarendon," who, on the contrary, did all that was possible for the benefit of the emigrants. And it appears probable that the mortality was chiefly caused by the fact that the people had the seeds of disease in them, or at least were predisposed towards it, when they were embarked. It is further stated by the surgeon, that one day, on visiting the depôt at Garden Reach, he learnt that three deaths had occurred there during the previous night, and that this number was not considered large.

6. Under these circumstances, Mr. Lindsay claims that those whom he represents should be indemnified for a misfortune which arose, not from any act of theirs, but from the "gross neglect" of the agents, who shipped a number of persons "affecetd with choleraic poison."

He

He urges, therefore, that the spirit, though not the letter of the agreement, entitles them to payment of freight even on those persons who died on board.

7. It appears to us that the charge of "gross neglect" is not established. It is true that cholera existed in the depôt, but it must be remembered that cholera always exists in Calcutta; that no care can prevent its being brought into the depôt by the numerous emigrants who are always passing through it, and that to lay down a rule that emigration should be suspended unless the depôt was free from that disease, would be almost equivalent to a prohibition of emigration. Whether any useful precautions have been neglected, or any errors in judgment committed by the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, is a question which may be solved by the pending inquiry. But of gross neglect, sufficient to invalidate an express contract, there is, we conceive, no evidence or presumption whatever.

8. In the absence of such gross neglect, it appears to us that the spirit of the agreement consists in the strict enforcement of its letter.

9. Engagements made by Government are not like those which are made by individuals. In the former it is necessary, for the prevention of favouritism or the suspicion of it, that the power of any Government officer to dispense with the letter of any engagement, should be jealously limited; and all persons therefore who contract with Government are, or ought to be aware, that they cannot expect from those who are expending public money, the equitable concessions which might be fairly enough claimed from persons who are expending their own.

10. A strict rule is also necessary, in order to cut off a number of vexatious questions which would arise, if, instead of enforcing inflexibly an express rule, it were the duty of the Government officer to weigh the innumerable circumstances which might on most occasions be adduced for relaxing it, and which, when urged against Government, it would be extremely difficult to rebut, except by such an inflexible rule.

11. Nor is this unfair, for the risks thus imposed become understood by shipowners and others who contract with Government, and thus enter into the rate of freight at which ships are tendered to us.

12. If the master of the "Clarendon" did not consider this, he was imprudent; for the chance of mortality in the emigration from Calcutta is notorious, and the actual mortality during the emigration of 1856-7, averaged no less than 17 per cent. This was a matter of public notoriety, and, indeed was probably under Government investigation when the "Clarendon" was chartered; and the master might have learnt from the Emigration Agent, not only that it had occurred during the previous season, but that no guarantee whatever could be given him that it would not occur again, or that, if it did occur, any allowance would be made to him on account of it.

13. Although, therefore, we very much regret the loss which the owners of the "Clarendon," and of many other ships, have sustained in consequence of the mortality among the coolie emigrants, we should, even if the case were for our decision, be unable to recommend any relaxation of the terms of their charterparties.

14. In any case, the utmost that could be done for Mr. Lindsay, would be to refer the case for the consideration of the Governor and the Court of Policy of British Guiana, with such an expression of opinion as Sir E. Bulwer Lytton might consider to be warranted by the circumstances of the case.

We have, &c.

T. F. Elliot, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Enclosure 6, in No. 46.

Encl. 6, in No. 46.

Sir, Downing-street, 8 December 1858.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. B. Lytton to acknowledge your letter of the 2d ultimo, respecting the coolie emigrant ship "Clarendon."

In reply, I am to transmit to you a copy of a report, which, at Sir E. Lytton's request, the Emigration Commissioners have furnished to him upon this subject: and at the same time I am to convey to you Sir E. Lytton's regret, that it is not in his power to do more than forward the correspondence to the Governor of British Guiana.

18 November 1858, page 192.

I have, &c.

W. S. Lindsay, Esq., M. P.

(signed) *T. F. Elliot.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 47. —

No. 47.
The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
23 December 1858.

(No. 82.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 23 December 1858.

Enclosure, 9 December 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information, a copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, respecting the progress of immigration into Trinidad, and stating the Commissioners' intention of calling upon Mr. Eales, the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, for an explanation of the delay in engaging ships for the conveyance of coolies to British Guiana.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 47.

Enclosure in No. 47

Sir, Emigration Office, 9 December 1858.

Sub-Enclosure.

WE enclose for the information of Secretary Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, and for transmission to the Governor of Trinidad, the copy of a letter from the Acting Emigration Agent at Madras, in which he reports the departure of the coolie ship "Hope," with 330 adults for that colony, and the charter of two further ships, the "Palmerston" and "Cleveland," for the same destination, at the respective rates of 8 *l.* 10 *s.* per adult.

2. It is now extremely possible that Trinidad will receive a considerable number of emigrants in excess of the numbers ordered (3,000), 12 ships having been chartered for that destination, of which five have been reported to us as having been despatched with about 1,900 souls, equal to 1,718 adults.

3. We would suggest that the Governor should be instructed to make due provision for the payment of the freights in the colony of these and the other ships taken up, and to take all necessary steps for the location and allotment of the coolies who will probably arrive in quick succession.

4. We earnestly hope that the probable excess in the number of immigrants, will not be productive of financial or other inconvenience. It appears to have arisen from the circumstance that the Acting Agents, Messrs. Eales and Burton, being probably unacquainted with the former correspondence, were not fully alive to the necessity of communicating with each other, and having been urged not to lose the first months of the season, lost no time in pressing the emigration to the utmost of their power.

5. We are, however, unable to understand, and shall request Mr. Eales to explain why the engagement of ships for British Guiana did not begin at least at Calcutta some weeks earlier.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

T. F. Elliot, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 47.

Colonial Emigration Office, Madras,
Sir, 30 October 1858.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I despatched the ship "Hope," Captain Forster, of 818 tons register, with 330 statute adults in charge of Dr. Bower, R.N., for Trinidad, on the 15th instant, and that I have chartered the ship "Palmerston," Captain Seagrove, at 8 *l.* 10 *s.*, for the same port, which vessel will be despatched, weather permitting, on the 1st proximo. I have also chartered the barque "Cleveland," of 514 tons, at 8 *l.* 10 *s.* per head, for Trinidad, for a further batch, and expect to be able to despatch her about the 15th proximo, after which I purpose, if possible, to despatch a vessel for Demerara, which indeed I hope to be able to do about the end of November.

2. I beg to enclose herewith the charterparty of the "Palmerston," the one for the "Cleveland" will be forwarded as soon as completed.

3. The account current from the 4th of January 1858 to the 23d March 1858, is now being examined

examined by Mr. J. F. M'Lagan, who has been appointed as auditor for the emigration accounts, and will be forwarded as soon as possible.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Burton,*
Acting Colonial Emigration Commissioner.

S. Walcott, Esq.
Secretary Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners,
London.

— No. 48. —

(No. 83.)

No. 48.
The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
27 December 1858.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.
Enclosure 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse.*

Sir, Downing-street, 27 December 1858.

I TRANSMIT you copies of two letters from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, with copy of one from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with reference to the repayment of certain advances made by the Government of India to the West India Emigration Agents at Calcutta.

I have to request that you will cause a further sum of 1,500 *l.* to be remitted to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to enable them to meet their claims.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 48.

Encl. 1, in No. 48.

Sir, Treasury Chambers, 11 November 1858.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith copy of a letter from the Secretary of State for India, with its enclosures, relative to the accounts current of the Colonial Emigration Agent at Madras for the quarters ending June and December 1857; and I am to request that you will move Sir E. B. Lytton to cause the same to be forwarded to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with instructions to them, if the claim should appear to be correct, to pay the sum of 104*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* to the account of the Secretary of State in Council for India at the Bank of England.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. E. Trevelyan.*

H. Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 1, in No. 48.

Sir, East India House, 3 November 1858.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward to you a copy of two letters, one from the Acting Chief Secretary at Madras, dated the 17th of September 1857, the other from the Chief Secretary at the same Presidency, dated the 24th of February 1858, transmitting the accounts current of the Colonial Emigration Agent with Her Majesty's Treasury for the quarters ending June and December 1857.

I at the same time forward to you the voucher of the Colonial Emigration Agent for the receipt of 1,000 rupees on account of the West India emigration agency; and I am directed to request that you will move the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to order the equivalent of that sum, at 2*s.* 1*d.* the rupee, viz., one hundred and four pounds, three shillings, and four pence (£. 104. 3*s.* 4*d.*) to be paid to the account of the Secretary of State in Council of India at the Bank of England.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Cosmo Melvill.*

Sir C. E. Trevelyan, K.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 48.

Encl. 2, in No. 48.

Sir, Treasury Chambers, 20 November 1858.

THE Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury desire me to transmit to you copy of a letter, dated 6th instant, from the Secretary of State for India, with a statement and vouchers

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vouchers of advances made from the General Treasury at Calcutta on account of West India emigration, in the quarter ended 30th April last; and to request that you will move Sir E. Bulwer Lytton to cause the same to be forwarded to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with instructions to them, if the claim should appear to be correct, to pay the sum of 3,125 *l.* to the account of the Secretary of State in Council for India at the Bank of England.

I have, &c.

H. Merivale, Esq. (signed) *C. E. Trevelyan.*

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 2, in No. 48.

Sir, East India House, 6 November 1858.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward herewith a statement and vouchers of advances made from the General Treasury at Calcutta on account of West Indian emigration, in the quarter ending 30th April 1858; and I am to request that you will move the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to order the equivalent of the sum of 30,000 rupees advanced to the Emigration Agent, at 2*s.* 1*d.* the rupee, viz., three thousand one hundred and twenty-five pounds (£.3,125), to be paid to the account of the Secretary of State in Council of India at the Bank of England.

I have, &c.

Sir Chas. E. Trevelyan, K.C.B. (signed) *J. Cosmo Melvill.*

Encl. 3, in No. 48.

Enclosure 3, in No. 48.

Sir, Emigration Office, 11 December 1858.

WE have the honour to acknowledge your letters of 30th ultimo and 1st instant, enclosing requisitions from Her Majesty's Treasury for the repayment to the East Indian Government of two sums, viz., 3,125 *l.* and 104 *l.* 3 *s.* 4 *d.*, being the amount of certain advances made to the West Indian Emigration Agents at Calcutta and Madras.

2. In reply, we have to state that the claims appear to be correct, and that we propose to pay over the above amounts, as requested, to the account of the Secretary of State for India in Council, as soon as we shall receive from the colony of British Guiana the remittance which we expect from that colony, and which formed the subject of our report of 21st October last.

3. We have at the same time to state, that it appears from the documents enclosed in your two letters above referred to, that further demands will be made against the colony of British Guiana for expenses incurred in India, which, with other claims which we have reason to anticipate, will amount to nearly 1,500 *l.*; and we would therefore request that the Governor of that colony may be instructed to remit to us as early as possible the further amount of 1,500 *l.*, to enable us to meet these claims.

We have, &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

T. F. Elliot, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 49. —

(No. 86.)

No. 49.
The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
29 December 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 December 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with reference to the remuneration of surgeons employed on board the Australian and West Indian immigration vessels.

23 Nov. 1858.
Vide page 414.

I have authorised the Commissioners to adopt the scale of remuneration which they have recommended.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 50. —

(No. 87.)

No. 50.
The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Wodehouse.
29 December 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Wodehouse*.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 December 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information and guidance, an extract from a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copy of one from the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting that, under the authority of the Indian Government, certain modifications had been introduced in the system of emigration from that port which would involve some additional expense in respect of the ships proceeding to British Guiana and Trinidad.

23 Dec. 1858. Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 50.

Encl. in No. 50.

(Extract.)

Emigration Office, 23 December 1858.

I ENCLOSE herewith, for Sir E. Bulwer Lytton's information, the copy of a letter received to-day from the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting that the Government of India have sanctioned certain alterations in the system of emigration from that port, recommended by Dr. Mouat; that these modifications will be introduced into the ships about to leave for Trinidad and British Guiana, and that, as they will involve some additional expense not contemplated by the charterparties, the owners would be entitled, in addition to the sum specified in the charterparty, to such reasonable payment as would cover the extra expense.

Sub-Enclosure. 6 Nov.

We have not received Dr. Mouat's report, nor the new provision scale alluded to by Mr. Eales, and I am therefore unable to form any conjecture as to what may be a reasonable sum to cover the additional expense; but no doubt ample information on that point will be furnished to the colonial authorities when the ships in which the alterations have been introduced are despatched, and under any circumstances, it would be easier for them than for us to estimate the cost of such alterations. I would, however, submit that the substance of Mr. Eales' letter should be communicated to the Governors of Trinidad and British Guiana, that they may be aware that such claims will be likely to be preferred on behalf of the shipowners, and may be prepared to give them reasonable consideration.

Herman Merivale, Esq., C. B.,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure No. 50.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
6 November 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, dated 18th, 22d, 24th, and 25th of September respectively.

It is with reference to the matter contained in three of these documents relating to the mortality in the last West India season, accompanied by sundry suggestions and instructions for future consideration and adoption, that I have now the honour to address you, though more briefly than the occasion demands, in order to save the outgoing mail of the 9th instant, as I deem it to be of some moment in being able to inform you that within a few hours of the receipt of your letter the Government of India, authoritatively sanctioned the whole of the modifications recommended in Dr. Mouat's recent report, with one exception. I omit further reference to this document at present, presuming that a copy of the same has been already furnished you.

I was gratified in obtaining sanction to effect these changes immediately, in order to their being carried out in the very next ships which quit this in a few days hence for Demerara and Trinidad. In the interim, the Government has directed a revised and consolidated set of rules to be prepared and furnished for the guidance of all concerned in the emigration of native labourers to the colonies, embodying the modifications now sanctioned in respect to emigration to the West Indies.

As these measures involve an extra outlay to the ships not contemplated at the period of their engagement, or stipulated for in the terms of their contract, I presume the Commissioners will readily accord their sanction to the Colonial Government defraying any reasonable expense thus incurred. A detailed statement will be duly furnished exhibiting the cost of various

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various articles disallowed in the old provision scale, and the price of the additional stores, &c., substituted under the new arrangement, in order to an equitable adjustment of the same hereafter between the ships and the Colonial Government at the port of disembarkation in the West Indies.

Adverting more particularly to the subject of your letter of the 22d, under notice, with its annexures from Drs. Mitchell and Dyer, detailing the lamentable mortality of last season, I must confess my inability to throw any further light on a theme which appears to have already been ably discussed by experienced officers, whose recorded opinions, embodied in Dr. Mouat's report, in my humble judgment, are entitled to every consideration and respect.

In compliance with the request of the Commissioners, the Medical Examiner has addressed me the enclosed letter regarding the assertion of the surgeon of the "Fulwood," to the effect "that emigrants were passed without being submitted to his inspection." The truth of this assertion, which personal knowledge enables me to question, is amply met in the first paragraph of the report referred to in Dr. Scriven's letter. The ship surgeon, although possessing no actual veto in the examination, his objecting to receive any particular individual invariably meets with attention and deference.

With respect to the further information requested relative to the details of the system which obtains at the depôt, and other inquiries anent the dietary, &c., I purpose reverting to the subject in a future communication, which shall follow in due course.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.

Sir, General Hospital, 3 November 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the letter (herewith returned), dated 22d September 1858, from the Secretary to the Government Emigration Board, with reference to the mortality among the emigrants to the West Indies on board ship during the past season of 1857-58. I have already commented at length on nearly all the points therein touched upon, so far as they concern me, in my report, dated 21st July 1857, addressed to the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, and since embodied in the more extended report of Dr. Mouat, to which I beg to refer the Commissioners for replies to their inquiries.

As regards provisions, preserved milk, for the use of children, was proposed by me at the inquiry instituted by Government into the causes of mortality, and has been recommended by Dr. Mouat.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. B. Scriven,*
Medical Examiner of West Indian Emigrants.

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Despatches from the Governor.

— No. 1. —

(No. 21.)

No. 1.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
25 Sept. 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

King's House, 25 September 1857.
(Received, 19 October 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 58, 15 January 1858, page 277.)

AT a meeting of the Board of Immigration Correspondence held this day, the resolutions which I have the honour to enclose were passed.

Enclosure.

2. The first of these resolutions is directed to the object of obtaining, at as early a date as possible, an additional supply of suitable labourers from India, the East being, as it is believed, the only quarter in which there is at present any prospect of procuring such a supply. The Board are desirous of leaving the proportion of the sexes to be decided by the authorities in England and in India; because, while anxious that an adequate number of women should accompany the men, they have, in the absence of detailed information on various points, felt difficulty in attempting to state definitely what that proportion should be; and are unaware how far the circumstances connected with the emigration of coolies would render it possible to furnish that proportion if fixed.

3. I think that the inquiry which I am requested by the second resolution to address to Her Majesty's Government is of great importance. Considering the cost of introducing a coolie labourer into Jamaica, and the liability incurred of having to send him back to India at the expiration of a limited period of service, while our finances still labour, and will continue to labour for many years to come, under a heavy debt; it is most desirable that every precaution should be taken, that the full value of the expenditure for this purpose should be received; and that the male emigrants embarked should not only have been accustomed to a life of agriculture, but, if it be possible to obtain such, have pursued a life of industry also.

4. It is very positively stated that some hundreds of the coolies landed in Jamaica during the years 1846 and 1847, about which period the introduction of that class of immigrant into the island altogether ceased, were too old, and in other respects not well selected; and that, whilst on the one hand their value as mere labourers was very inconsiderable, on the other hand, their presence amongst our native population and their own countrymen of a better sort, was far from beneficial in its moral effects.

5. In proposing to nominate on behalf of the colony an agent, whose certificate shall be an indispensable preliminary to the embarkation of the labourers, it is not sought to interfere in the slightest degree with the proceedings of the Government officer through whose agency these people may be collected, or indirectly to secure for Jamaica the most eligible emigrants at the expense of other colonies interested in the same scheme. But it is very earnestly desired that we should have the right of rejecting such male labourers at least as are altogether unsuitable; and I think I am not overstating the anxiety of the Board of Immigration Correspondence on this point when I say, that, if the

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appointment of an agent for that purpose should be objected to by Her Majesty's Government, the Board would be desirous of reconsidering their determination to appropriate, as they have done by the first of the enclosed resolutions, the amount of the immigration loan remaining unexpended to the introduction of a further supply of labourers of the description in question.

6. If, on the other hand, Her Majesty's Government see no objection to such a proceeding, and consider that the prospects of obtaining labourers in India are of a nature to justify the step, measures would be immediately taken to nominate and despatch to India some person on behalf of the colony, in whose judgment and fidelity to its interests confidence could be placed.

7. With reference to the funds applicable to this purpose, I beg to state that a sum not far short of 5,000 *l.* (five thousand pounds,) remains unexpended of the 50,000*l.* (fifty thousand pounds,) already raised, being the amount appropriated to the introduction of inhabitants of the Cape de Verd islands, but no longer required for that purpose, and making, with the balance of the loan to be now raised (50,000*l.*) a total sum of about 55,000*l.* (fifty-five thousand pounds), which, it is presumed, will be more than sufficient for the introduction of 3,000 coolies, including the remuneration and charges of the agent whom it is proposed to appoint.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. in No. 1.

Enclosure in No. 1.

EXTRACT from Minutes of a Meeting of the Commissioners of Immigration Correspondence, held at King's House, on the 25th September 1857.

"Resolved,—THAT the Governor be requested to address the Secretary of State and ascertain whether immigrants can be obtained from the East Indies;—and in that event, that the proper steps be taken for raising the balance of the 100,000*l.* loan, leaving the proportion of the sexes to be decided by Her Majesty's Government and the authorities in India.

"It was also Resolved.—That his Excellency be requested to ascertain whether Her Majesty's Government would object to the appointment of an agent on the part of this island, and at its expense, whose duty it shall be to examine personally each immigrant previous to embarkation, and ascertain their fitness for agricultural labour, and without whose certificate to that effect no immigrant shall be embarked."

— No. 2. —

(No. 31).

No. 2.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
31 October 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

King's House, 31 October 1857.
(Received, 3 December 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 52, 23 December 1857, p. 277.

IN compliance with the instruction conveyed in the last paragraph of your Despatch, No. 22 of the 8th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith a form of the indenture under which the Africans captured on board a slaver by Her Majesty's sloop "Arab," have been apprenticed, and to state that the children indentured as domestic servants were all parentless.

2. It will be perceived by the form of indenture that the assignment of the children was considered to be legal under the provisions of the local Act for the Apprenticeship of Minors.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure in No. 2.

(Jamaica, ss.)

THIS INDENTURE, made the day of in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, between *David Ewart*, Esquire, Agent General of Immigration, acting under the authority of His Excellency Major General *Edward Wells Bell*, Lieutenant Governor of this Island, of the one part, and of the parish of a householder of the said parish of of the other part.

WHEREAS the several Africans, whose names, sex, and age are mentioned in the Schedule to these presents annexed, are some of a greater number captured by Her Majesty's sloop "Arab," and brought into this island, and condemned in the Vice Admiralty Court thereof, in pursuance of the statutes for the suppression of the slave trade:

And whereas it has been considered by the Lieutenant Governor of this island to be for the benefit of the said Africans, that they should be, and they have been accordingly, by the Lieutenant Governor of this island, placed under the charge and care of the Agent General of Immigration, to the intent that he should, until further or other legislative provision should be made, as their next friend, assign and dispose of the services of the said Africans, under the Act for the Apprenticeship of Minors:

And whereas the said has applied for the services of of the said Africans (being those mentioned in the Schedule to these presents annexed), and in consideration thereof, has undertaken and agreed, until further or other legislative provision should be made, to enter into the covenants, stipulations, and agreements, and to conform to the regulations hereinafter contained or referred to.

NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH, that in pursuance of such agreements, and in consideration of the covenants, promises, and agreements hereinafter on the part of the said contained, he the said David Ewart, as Agent General of Immigration as aforesaid, acting under the authority and by the direction of the Lieutenant Governor of this island as aforesaid, and as the next friend of the said Africans, doth, by these presents, indent, put, place, and bind the said Africans whose names, sex, and age are mentioned in the said schedule hereunto annexed, to and with the said for the term of years, to be computed from the day of the date of these presents; during all which time the said apprentices the said will and shall faithfully serve and honestly, orderly, and obediently behave themselves towards the said and towards all other persons having lawful charge of them during the said term: and the said for the considerations aforesaid, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said David Ewart, Agent General of Immigration as aforesaid, his executors and administrators, that he the said shall and will teach and instruct, or cause to be taught and instructed, the said several apprentices; and also shall and will, during the said term, find and provide the said several apprentices with sufficient suitable and proper meat, drink, lodging, bedding, clothing, washing, working tools, or implements of work, and medical attendance, by a qualified medical practitioner, and such medicines and medical comforts as the medical attendant shall direct, and shall and will encourage the said apprentices to attend Divine service; and also to receive the benefit of such other religious and useful instruction as may be connected therewith; and also shall and will permit and allow to each of the said apprentices one afternoon in each and every week over and beyond the Sunday, and will pay, and have particular attention paid to the morals of the said apprentices, and also shall and will permit the said David Ewart, Agent General of Immigration, or the Agent General of Immigration for the time being, or the subagent of the district, or any stipendiary magistrate, to enter where the said apprentices shall be located, and to have access to them respectively, and to inspect the state and condition of every such apprentice; and also shall and will, from time to time, and at all times during this contract, observe, comply with, and perform all and every the rules and regulations which may be issued by the Agent General under the authority of the Governor, in relation to the said Africans, and the publication of such rules and regulations, signed by the Agent General of Immigration, in the Jamaica Gazette, by authority, shall be deemed a sufficient issuing and promulgation of the said rules and regulations; and also shall and will, during all the time aforesaid, well and truly conform to the provisions of a certain Act passed in the fourth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled, "An Act to Regulate the Apprenticeship of Minors;" provided always, and it is hereby mutually declared and agreed, by and between the parties to these presents, that in case the said shall die, depart from this island, or become *non compos mentis*, or insolvent, or otherwise incapable of maintaining and instructing the said apprentices, it shall be in the discretion of the Agent General of Immigration for the time either to cancel this indenture or to allow it to remain in full force and effect; and in such last case, on the death of the said the covenants, promises, and agreements herein on his part contained, shall be obligatory and binding on the

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the executors or administrators of the said and provided also, that in case of any further or other legislative provision being made, by which the services of the said Africans shall be authorised to be assigned, then and in such case, if there shall have been a due compliance with the terms of this contract, on the part of the said in the meantime the said shall be entitled to, and shall have the preference of the assignment of the services of the said several Africans, included in this indenture, for the period or residue of the period, which shall bs fixed by such legislative enactment, upon the terms, and subject to the provisions, in such legislative enactment to be contained.

In witness whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto respectively set their hands, and affixed their seals, the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed, and delivered, in the presence of,

SCHEDULE.

No.	Name.	Sex.	Age.

— No. 3. —

No. 3.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 8 February 1858.

(No. 13.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

King's House, 8 February 1858.
(Received, 9 March 1858.)

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your Despatch, No. 58* of the 15th ultimo, enclosing the copy of a Report from the Emigration Commissioners upon my Despatch, No. 21† of the 25th of September last, in relation to a future immigration of coolie labourers.

* Page 277.

† Page 199.

2. With respect to the proposal to appoint a special agent on behalf of the colony in India, to which objections are urged by the Emigration Commissioners, and which I learn from your Despatch are concurred in by yourself, I would beg to remark, that the proposal referred to emanated (as stated in my Despatch) from the Board of Immigration Correspondence, appointed under the Local Act, 15 Victoria, chap. 41, and not from the Legislature, as I perceive is supposed to be the case, both in your Despatch and in the Report of the Commissioners.

3. That Board, which I beg to observe no longer exists, was instituted as a "means by which the Government of Her Majesty may be instructed from time to time as to the views and interests of the inhabitants of this island, in respect of the selection of immigrants to be hereafter introduced into this island at the public expense." The recommendation, therefore, that an agent should be specially appointed, seems to fall within the legitimate province of the Board, although, as in the case of the proposed importation of sepoys, their views are not necessarily confirmed by the Legislature.

4. In respect to this particular question, the "Immigration Act, 1857," which I shall have the honour of forwarding by the present opportunity, leaves it

it entirely in the hands of Her Majesty's Government, by enacting, (clause 3), that "The Governor may, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, from time to time appoint an agent or agents, at any port or ports of immigration, from which immigrants to this island may be embarked, for the purpose of inspecting, on behalf of this island, the labourers proposed to be shipped, and rejecting any who shall appear to him or them to be ineligible under the rules and directions for his and their guidance in such respects, which he or they may, from time to time, receive from the Governor."

5. Referring, however, to the practical objections to the appointment urged by the Commissioners of Emigration, it may be remarked, that any expense incurred for the maintenance of immigrants, rejected on behalf of Jamaica, until they should be shipped for some other colony, would form a fair charge upon the immigration fund of the island. If similar agents existed on behalf of the other importing colonies, and the proposed emigrants were equally rejected by them, the expense of their return might then be equitably divided amongst the importing colonies. If, on the other hand, the other colonies have hitherto been content to receive all the labourers whom the selecting agents may bring to the port of embarkation, I do not perceive that they would be placed in a worse position than heretofore, while Jamaica, being willing to incur the additional expense, not only of the special agent, but of the inland return or intermediate maintenance of coolies, or even of short complement of ship-passengers rather than receive immigrants of a decidedly ineligible character, would have the advantage of her increased expenditure in this respect.

6. The whole proposal, it may be added, involves the supposition that the rejected immigrants would be comparatively few in number, and the heavy penalty of the additional expense which the rejection would involve, would act, under proper instructions from the local government of Jamaica, as an effective check upon the special agent's injudicious or overstrained exercise of his power.

7. The eleventh clause of the "Immigration Act; 1857," gives the Governor power, in fixing the average cost of importation of an immigrant, to include all expenses "reasonably incidental" to the introduction of immigrants, and I submit that an expense incurred in the manner proposed, to insure that the immigrants introduced are such as employers desire, and would really benefit the country, might be deemed a reasonable expenditure in the spirit of the Act.

8. I am not accurately informed of the present cost of an Indian immigrant previously to embarkation, or of the penalties incurred in respect of each immigrant short shipped; but assuming the figures adopted by the Emigration Commissioners in their calculation (par. 6), namely, 30 (thirty) rejected coolies out of a body of 350 (three hundred and fifty); the forfeiture of two-thirds of the amount of passage money at 16*l.* (sixteen pounds) a head, would not, I presume, including the inland return expenses, increase the expense of the remaining 320 (three hundred and twenty) more than about 25*s.* (twenty-five shillings) a head; an amount, which spread over 1,500 (fifteen hundred) working days in 5 (five) years, increases the cost of daily labour (making full allowance for casualties) by only about, say one farthing a day, an increase which would scarcely be complained of if it ensured superior quality in the labourer.

9. With respect to the proportion of the sexes pointed out as being at present required; in the ninth paragraph of the Emigration Commissioners' Report, I beg to state that the sixth clause of the new Act enjoins the Governor to make provision for the introduction of a proportionate number of immigrants of both sexes. This proportion will, therefore, of course be fixed as determined by Her Majesty's Government.

10. With reference to the eleventh paragraph of the Commissioners' Report, I think it will be found that the seventy-sixth and few following clauses of the new law will resolve the doubt which the Commissioners entertain as the result of former tardy proceedings on the part of the Jamaica Legislature.

11. Adverting now to the draft of clauses supplementary to the model immigration Ordinance, to which attention is called in the Emigration Commissioners' Report, I may state that some of the objects for which they provide are met by the provisions of the new Act, and the authority over the agents of

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immigration in the colony, which it confers upon the Governor. The thirtieth clause of the Act, as it stands, is no doubt at variance with the desire entertained by the East India Company, that certain holidays to be observed as religious festivals should be established at the discretion of the Governor. But with respect to this and any of the other points which are not provided for in the enactment, I may say with confidence that no obstacle will be raised by the Legislature to any regulation which has been adopted by other importing colonies.

12. I venture therefore earnestly to request that, as these clauses were not made known to the Government of Jamaica in time to be incorporated in the recent Act of the Legislature, delay on that account at least may not be permitted to occur in initiating arrangements for a future supply of coolie labourers to the colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

— No. 4. —

(No. 14.)

No. 4. Governor Darling to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 8 February 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

King's House, 8 February 1858.
(Received, 9 March 1858.

Sir,

Two Acts, one the 21 Vict. c. 5,* "To amend the Laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, and for raising funds to defray the expenses attendant upon their introduction and subsequent colonisation in the island;" the other, 21 Vict. c. 6,† "To authorise the indenturing, for purposes of industrial service, persons condemned as forfeited to Her Majesty, under the statutes for the abolition of the slave trade, in certain cases, and to remove doubts as to the rights of such persons," duly authenticated under the great seal of the island, and accompanied by the Island Secrtary's Reports, were transmitted with my Despatch, No. 9 of 26th ultimo.

* *Vide* Appendix, No. 12, p. 518.

† *Vide* Appendix, No. 13, p. 535.

2. I have now the honour to enclose the Attorney General's reports upon those Acts.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.

3. In addition to these reports, but few observations from myself seem necessary; especially as the Immigration Act is founded, to a great extent, upon the laws relating to this important subject, which have been sanctioned in other Colonies.

4. At one of the earliest conferences I held with my advisers after my assumption of the Government, I stated my opinion that, in the case of a country so manifestly underpeopled in proportion to its cultivable area as Jamaica undoubtedly is, a permanent provision for the introduction of a suitable labouring population should have a place upon its statute book; I informed them, that the principles which I conceived to be most just in themselves, independently of political considerations locally affecting the question, are, that the expense of the introduction of immigrants should be proportionably divided between those who secured the benefit of the more immediate services of the immigrant during the earlier period of their residence in the Colony, while the cost of their return to their own country, in cases where that course should become necessary, ought to be at least partly provided for from the general revenue; which, in a Colony whose treasury is so largely supplied through the medium of duties on imported goods, such as the population are in the habit of using, is manifestly augmented by the increased consumption which surely follows the introduction of additional productive labour. My view with respect to immigrants, who would remain in the Colony, and become incorporated with its permanent population, I stated to be that the cost of their introduction should be defrayed partly by their first employers, and partly from the general revenue.

5. I found

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5. I found the Executive Committee unanimous in their agreement with the general principles of this proposal; but having regard to the opposition which a powerful party in the Assembly, who consider themselves more peculiarly the protectors of the interests of the native population, have long offered to the appropriation of the public revenue to the introduction of competitive labour; it was thought expedient to throw the whole expense of such introduction upon the employer; lightening the burden as much as possible, by spreading the repayment of the cost over a series of years.

6. The Bill which was introduced into the Assembly was altered in one important particular before it was finally passed. Proceeding, as it did, upon the principle that the credit of the island should be pledged for the necessary loan to carry the measure into effect, while the Island Treasury would be in turn secured against loss by a first lien upon the lands on which the immigrant should be employed, no limitation was in the original Bill fixed to the amount which the Governor was authorised to borrow; and had the Bill remained unchanged, in this respect, it would have been a measure which would have provided for the wants of employers of labour throughout all time, until the Island should have received its full measure of population.

7. But the party who are least anxious for, and perhaps sincerely doubtful, according to their own views, of the benefits to the Colony of any sort of immigration, took alarm at a proposed charge of so extensive a character upon its financial resources; and it was agreed to limit the amount to be raised under the Act, to one hundred and fifty thousand pounds. The funds now applicable to immigration purposes amount therefore, including the balance in hand of the Imperial loan already raised (about five thousand pounds) and the balance of the authorised amount of that loan remaining to be raised (fifty thousand pounds), to the total sum of two hundred and five thousand pounds.

	£. 150,000
	£. 5,000
	£. 50,000
	£. 205,000

8. As this sum, however, would provide for the introduction of about twelve thousand (12,000) of the most expensive description of immigrants, it will, I fear, be found amply sufficient for any supply which we are likely to obtain for two or three years to come; and, when exhausted, a simple renewal of the power conferred by the 69th clause is all that will be necessary to continue the practical operation of the Act, which is otherwise unlimited in its duration.

9. I will now beg leave to mention briefly the principles which the Act embraces:

1st. Persons desirous of obtaining the services of immigrants of any description are to make their applications to the Local Government, pledging themselves to conform to the conditions of the law. This pledge, if violated, may be enforced by penalties.

2d. The Local Government, subject to the concurrence and approval of the Imperial Government, will endeavour to procure immigrants in accordance with these applications.

3d. The cost of introduction will be defrayed by means of the loan already authorised by an Imperial Act, and that sanctioned by the Local Act now referred to.

4th. The Governor will, from time to time, fix the cost (including all charges and incidental expenses) of the introduction of each description of immigrant. He may alter this also, from time to time, if more accurate information should justify him in doing so.

5th. The immigrants shall be indentured to their employers, under conditions which I am assured are already sanctioned by the laws of other immigration colonies.

6th. Employers shall enter into contract with the Government to reimburse by six half-yearly instalments, in the case of immigrants introduced under the Imperial loan, two-thirds; and in the case of those introduced under the proposed loan, the whole of the cost of introduction, as fixed by the Governor. The monies payable to the Government in this respect are declared to be a first

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charge upon the estate in respect of which the immigrant shall be under indenture; and no immigrant shall be indentured to the lessee or tenant of an estate unless the owner is a party to the indenture. Two-thirds only of the cost is made repayable in the case of immigrants introduced by means of the Imperial loans, because for some time past the produce of estates has contributed through an export duty to the liquidation of that loan.

7th. A special fund for the return passages or commutation of passage of certain immigrants, and for the settlement on lands of all descriptions of immigrants, is provided for by yearly contributions from the public revenue, which, it is considered will, by means of accumulation, be found ample for the purpose.

8th. The relative rights of employer and labourer are protected by various provisions. Precautions are taken against the separation of husbands, wives, and young children; and the Governor has the power of making regulations respecting the food, clothing, lodging, and medical care of the immigrants.

10. I am aware it may be objected, that, in making the reimbursement of the cost of introduction a first lien upon the land, the rights of mortgagees might be interfered with; but this objection, I submit, is met at once by the considerations that the person of the employer is first liable, as pointed out in the Attorney General's report; and that if the mortgagee should object, which is hardly to be anticipated, and no other sufficient security be offered, the only consequence would be, that the estate will be removed from the operation of the Act, and be deprived of the benefit of immigrant labour.

11. Although the principle referred to is, I believe, new in legislation, as applied to the introduction of labour from foreign sources, I am satisfied that a comprehensive measure, such as the present immigration law, would not have been obtained upon any other condition; and, sanguine as I am, that it will prove the source of increased agricultural prosperity to the colony, I trust it may receive Her Majesty's sanction and be put beneficially into force with but little delay.

12. With respect to the Act, cap. 6, for indenturing liberated slaves, I beg to state that I did not receive your Despatch, No. 52 of the 23d December last, until after the termination of the Legislative session; but as the Act fixes the term of seven years as the maximum of the period of indenture, and makes the proceeding subject to the orders and directions of the Governor, I think that the object you have instructed me to attend to is sufficiently secured.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. 1, in No. 4.

Enclosure 1, in No. 4.

CAP. V. 21 Vict. c. 5.

AN ACT to amend the Laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, and for raising Funds to defray the Expenses attendant upon their Introduction and subsequent Colonisation in the Island.

THIS Act was introduced by a Member of the Executive Committee.

Of the numerous and often conflicting Acts previously in force relating to immigration, it leaves unrepealed (the 7th Vict. c. 22, which may be considered out of force,) the 15th Vict. c. 39, (s. 1 to 15 inclusive) and 16 Vic. c. 20 & 25.

These authorise the raising a loan of 100,000 *l.* (on debentures redeemable 20 years after date, bearing interest at $\frac{4}{100}$ per annum,) under the guarantee of Parliament. An export duty is to be levied for payment of the accruing interest, and for redemption of the principal debt, upon the proceeds of which duty the debt and interest are to be the sole charge.

Any deficiency in the fund created by these Acts is to be made good from the general revenue of the Island.

The

The present Act proposes the borrowing of a sum not to exceed 150,000 *l.* on negotiable securities, bearing an interest not exceeding the rate of $\frac{6}{100}$ per annum, and redeemable, at latest, in seven years after date.

To meet the interest and principal of the proposed loan, "The new Immigration Fund" is to be raised by securities taken from the employers of immigrants introduced under the Act; and these securities are to be the first charge on the lands for the cultivation of which the immigrants shall have been engaged.

The funds to be raised under the Act are pledged solely to the satisfaction of the loan and interest, and the "Island's credit" also "stands pledged" for such liquidation.

The Act provides for the introduction (with the assent of Her Majesty's Government) of voluntary emigrants from Africa; and for the ratification here of contracts made out of this Island by them, and by Asiatics (attested by an officer authorised by Government), for five years, agricultural service. Contracts made under similar circumstances, by other classes of emigrants, for three years' service, may be confirmed on arrival in the Island.

On completion of their several periods of agricultural service, the immigrants will respectively be entitled to a "certificate of industrial residence," which entitles them (if not already British subjects) to all the rights of a natural-born subject in this Island.

To Indian immigrants, having served 10 years in actual labour, or having served five years and commuted by paying 2 *l.* 10 *s.* per annum for non-service during the next following five years, and to Africans who renew and discharge their original engagement of five years more, or make the same commutation in lieu thereof as the East Indians, a return passage is to be given. This right, however, is subject to the condition that it shall be claimed 18 months before the 10 years shall have expired; and can then only be insisted on in case Her Majesty's Government shall decline to sanction a grant of ten acres of land instead of it.

The provisions of the Act are made with the prevailing object of throwing the burthen on the expenditure authorised by it, on those who will be immediately benefited by them; the security of the creditor being on the person of the employer, on the estate, the statutory fund, and for any possible deficiency in these, on the general revenue.

The passport clause (s. 34) is a novelty, and seems to clash with s. 33; but it will be at worst harmless, as no effective means exist of enforcing its observance by the emigrating immigrant.

The Agent General and Sub-agents of Immigration are the immediate protectors of the immigrants, and are severally invested with authority to enter on estates, and to inquire into and adjudicate on disputes, claims, or complaints, arising between them and their employers.

(signed) *Alexander Heslop*,
Attorney General.

8 February 1858.

Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

CAP. VI. 21 Vict. c. 6.

AN ACT to authorise the Indenturing, for purposes of Industrial Service, Persons condemned as forfeited to Her Majesty, under the Statutes for the Abolition of the Slave Trade in certain cases, and to remove Doubts as to the Rights of such Persons.

THIS also is an Act originating with the Local Government.

It provides (in the absence of other regulations under Parliamentary authority) for the indenturing, for a period of not more than seven years, of captured *African slaves condemned* as prize to the Queen in the Court of Vice-Admiralty here.

On indenture such persons are to be deemed natural-born subjects of the Queen.

The Act ratifies the labour contracts made on behalf of the slave children rescued by Her Majesty's brig "Arab," almost the whole of that human cargo being obviously under 17 years of age. (See Island Act, 15 Vict. c. 38, s. 43.)

The employers of such persons are not required to pay more to the Island treasury on their contracts than the amount of expenses actually incurred in the care and custody of the liberated.

(signed) *Alexander Heslop*,
Attorney General.

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— No. 5. —

No. 5.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 10 March 1858.

(No. 36.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

King's House, 10 March 1858.
(Received, 3 April 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 23, 3 May 1858, page 285.)

BY a private communication from London to a Member of the Executive Committee, I learn that an unusual number of captured Africans have been taken to Sierra Leone, and that Messrs. Hyde and Hodge have entered into a contract for their conveyance to the West Indies.

2. I am anxious therefore to lose no time in expressing my hope, that a fair proportion of these people will be sent to Jamaica, where specific applications for the employment of a considerable number have been addressed to the local Government, since the promulgation of the notice required by the new immigration law.

3. But in making this application, I think it right also to request the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the very superior advantages to immigrants of this description, which I believe the law of Jamaica now offers, as compared with those of other colonies.

4. I refer particularly to clauses from 78 to 92 of the Immigration Act, by which provision is made for settling African immigrants upon lands,—each immigrant after accomplishing his period of industrial residence, being entitled to a free grant of 10 acres, exempt from all charges for survey, title, arrears of quit-rent, &c., and absolved from the payment of all taxes for the space of three years after such grant shall be made.

5. Placing, as I conceive these regulations do, the introduction of labourers upon the footing at once most advantageous to themselves, and most liberal and sound in a colonisation point of view, I trust that they will not be without their weight in determining the destination of the Africans, whose future well-being and prospect of early advancement in the social scale must constitute such important elements in deciding upon the manner and proportion in which they will be distributed amongst competing colonies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 19 March 1858.

(No. 44.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P. &c. &c.

King's House, 19 March 1858.
(Received, 19 April 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 24, 3 May 1858, p. 285.)

Enclosure 1.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a memorial addressed to the Queen in Council, and signed "Edward Hewett," on behalf of a meeting of the labouring population held on the 4th instant at Mount Carey, in the parish of St. James, praying that Her Majesty will withhold her assent from the Immigration Bill recently passed by the Legislature of Jamaica, for reasons which are specified in the memorial.

2. Mr. Hewett, although not describing himself as such in this instance, is a minister of the Baptist persuasion. I am not informed of the number of labourers who attended the meeting, or whether there were any present on the occasion besides those constituting Mr. Hewett's immediate flock. The means which

which were resorted to, however, to induce an assemblage of the people, and to inflame their minds in respect to the object of the meeting, will be seen by a perusal of the placard put into circulation by Mr. Hewett, of which I have the honour to enclose a copy.

3. The first allegation of the memorial is, that the Immigration Act was so hurried through its several stages as to prevent the possibility of the memorialists expressing an opinion on either its principle or its details. The facts with respect to the passing of the Bill into law are as follow:

4. It was introduced into the Assembly in a printed form upon the 17th of November, its general principles having been already enunciated by me in the speech with which I opened the Session on the 10th of that month. On the 20th November it was read a second time, committed, and progress thereon reported. Its consideration in committee was not resumed until the 23d, when progress was again reported. On the 25th the consideration of it in committee was concluded, when it was finally reported with amendments. The engrossed Bill was brought up for the third reading on the 26th, when six several amendments were made to it; it was then finally passed and sent over to the Council. It was passed by that body on the 27th, but did not receive my assent until the 15th of December following. Therefore, between the 17th November and the 15th December, it was competent to the memorialists, or any other objectors to the bill, to have memorialised the Governor against its passing into law. I need scarcely observe, moreover, that the interests of the native population are amply represented, and anxiously attended to in the House of Assembly. The objections offered to the measure in its progress through that body had, however, no reference whatever to the points stated in the memorial; but simply to the extent which, as the Bill originally stood, it was feared that the revenues of the colony might become involved as security for advances, and therefore a limit to the amount of the guarantee was fixed.

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5. The memorialists are correct in affirming that the desire to obtain labourers from external sources originates in the "supposition"—long since, however, converted into an assurance—that the "energies" of the native labourer are not sufficiently exerted to ensure the proper cultivation of estates in many of the "localities in which they reside;" and I have no doubt that they have honestly stated the general grounds upon which they have been advised and led to protest against the new law, when they express their belief—however erroneously founded that belief may be—that the enactment is calculated "materially to affect their interests."

6. With respect to the grounds for this belief, which are categorically stated in the memorial, a very few observations will suffice to remove any delusion which those statements might upon a cursory perusal produce.

7. As regards the first, then, it may be observed that the Act is not limited to the introduction of any "proposed class of labourers;" it contemplates, on the contrary, the possibility of obtaining immigrants of every description who may be required by employers and from all feasible sources which may be sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government. Coloured labourers from the United States and skilled artisans from that country, from Great Britain, or the continental nations of Europe, may be, and probably will be, introduced under the Act; and upon the ground of their introduction affecting the memorialists' interests by competition, must be still more objectionable than the mere manual labourer from Asia or Africa, who are, no doubt, and are indeed shown by the context to be, meant by the term "proposed class of labourers."

8. With respect to the second head of objection, the exception which the statement contains constitutes precisely the most important ground upon which the aid of immigrant contract labour is so anxiously desired. The "certain seasons" to which the memorialists allude are identically those on which the defalcation of native labour is particularly injurious to the growing crops of the planter, or obstructive of some of the manufacturing operations which it is of moment should not be retarded.

9. The assumed evil consequences urged in the third reason for disallowing the Bill, cannot be greater here than in other colonies; and the experience of

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coolie labour, which we have already had in this colony, does not justify the apprehension that the introduction of labourers of that class, or of Chinese, will create undesirable feelings on the part of the native peasantry. Such language as that which Mr. Hewett has adopted with respect to the immigration law is, it seems to me, much more likely to lead to the apprehended result.

10. With respect to the fourth objection, it is probably sufficient to observe, that while the immigration law contains no restrictive provision which has not been already sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, in respect to other colonies and submitted to by the immigrants, I believe that by no law for the same purpose enacted elsewhere is it surpassed, if indeed it is equalled, in the largeness of the views it embodies as regards ultimate colonisation and the final settlement of the immigrants in such a manner as to place independence, civil privileges, and social comfort within their easy attainment.

11. The fifth objection is one to which Her Majesty's Government will take care that due attention is paid.

12. The sixth is not perhaps without some moral weight; but it might as truly be urged with respect to any one of the American or Australian colonies, and is of course wholly incompatible with the fact of Jamaica being itself a free country, and with that principle of British colonisation which welcomes all comers who submit to the laws of the land.

13. As regards the seventh objection, the memorialists overlook the fact that the Governor is empowered to make rules for the care and treatment of the immigrants; but the question of their religious instruction—if by that be meant attempts at proselytism and interference with their religious observances on the part of every zealous and, it may be, well-intentioned minister of the Gospel or philanthropist, who may believe himself impelled by duty to such a course—is one of some delicacy and difficulty which would scarcely, I think, be prudently dealt with by permitting that unrestricted access which the language of the memorialists evidently contemplates.

14. I ought not to conclude this Despatch without apprising you of my conviction that the memorial to Her Majesty, which it encloses, is an emanation of that spirit of opposition to the introduction of immigrants which has always prevailed in this island with more or less intensity. The former opposition, however, was principally based upon an objection to appropriate the public revenue to the purpose;—this ground of opposition no longer exists, and the leaders of the present movement appear to be three or four ministers of the Baptist persuasion, aided by one newspaper only of nine which are published in the colony. This publication, which is called the "Watchman," and is edited by a dismissed missionary of the Wesleyan body, is addressed exclusively to the labouring classes, amongst whom much trouble is taken to circulate it; and its main object appears to be to create disunion between them and their employers, an effort in which, I am sorry to say, it has been successful in more than one district.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. 1, in No. 6.

Enclosure 1, in No. 6.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

THE humble Memorial of a large number of the lately emancipated Labourers and others assembled at *Mount Carey*, in the Parish of St. James, Island of *Jamaica*, on the 3d day of March 1858,

Humbly showeth,

THAT your memorialists have seen with surprise and alarm an enactment under the title of "An Act to amend the Laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, and for raising Funds to defray the Expenses attendant upon their introduction and subsequent Colonisation in the Island," which passed the Legislature of this island during its last session, and which was so hurried through its several stages as to prevent the possibility of your memorialists expressing an opinion on either its principle or its details.

Your memorialists are under the impression that the said Act was originated on the supposition that the labourers of this country were unwilling to give their energies in the promotion of agriculture and the production of the staple exports of the colony.

Your

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Your memorialists would earnestly assure your most Gracious Majesty that such is not the fact, and that they have since 1838, when emancipation was bestowed upon them, been willing to work for adequate wages, and under proper treatment; and they are still in the different localities in which they reside labouring on sugar estates for hire.

Your memorialists believe that the Act above referred to will most materially affect their interests, and for the following reasons amongst others that might be mentioned, would implore your most Gracious Majesty to withhold from it your Royal assent:—

1. Because the introduction of the proposed class of labourers will, to a very great extent, deprive those now in the colony of the principal means they have of obtaining money with which to support themselves and their families.

2. Because your memorialists are convinced that there is no general want of labour for the cultivation of the soil and the production of sugar, rum, &c. (except at certain seasons of the year), unless it arises from one or other of the following causes: the very low and inadequate wages that are held out as an inducement to more continuous labour; the irregular and long periods at which wages are paid when due; and the frequent, unkind, and unfair treatment shown by the employer towards the employed.

3. Because the introduction of Chinese and coolie immigrants is likely to call forth the most undesirable feelings in the minds of the peasantry of this island towards the proprietors and the managers of West India properties, and perpetuate that disunion of feelings and interest which has hitherto been the bane of the country.

4. Because your memorialists are convinced that the Act under which it is proposed to apprentice the intending immigrants is coercive in its character, and by it several clauses will destroy their civil liberties and rights as men, and may be used as an engine of cruelty and oppression in the same manner, if not to the same degree, as the "apprenticeship system," which came into operation in lieu of slavery in 1834, and which happily expired in 1838.

5. Because your memorialists have the strongest reason to fear that it is impossible to obtain immigrants from the continent of Africa or India without purchase or fraud, and thus a semi-slave trade be renewed with all its attendant injustice and atrocity.

6. Because your memorialists are fearful that the introduction of a number of heathen and pagan foreigners, with their religious superstitions, idolatry, and wickedness, will act most injuriously on the morals of the inhabitants of the island, and hinder very much the efforts that are now in operation for their religious and moral improvement.

7. Because the Act in question makes no reference to or provision for the secular and religious instruction of the immigrants that may come under it; nor is there any clause which provides for admission to the properties where they are located of ministers of the Gospel who may be desirous of visiting them with a view to their spiritual benefit.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(signed) *Edward Hewett,*
on behalf of Meeting.

Mount Carey, Montigo Bay, St. James,
4 March 1858.

Enclosure 2, in No. 6.

Encl. 2, in No. 6.

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EXTRACT from the "Colonial Standard" Newspaper, under date 12 March 1858.

"To the Labouring Population—Your characters are assailed, your interests are endangered. An atrocious Immigration Bill has become the law of the land. Come to a public meeting, to be held at Mount Carey, on Wednesday, 3d of March. Let nothing prevent your attendance, as an appeal must be made at once to Her most gracious Majesty the Queen to disallow the Bill.

(signed) "*Edward Hewett.*"

"Mount Carey, 26 February 1858.

— No. 7. —

(No. 45.)

No. 7
Governor Darling, to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
19 March 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

King's House, 19 March 1858.
(Received, 19 April 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 31, 26 May 1858, p. 287.)

WITH reference to your circular* Despatch of the 8th September last, and its enclosures, I have now the honour to transmit the copy of a correspondence with the Agent General of Immigration, by which it would appear that amongst the names of immigrants given in the documents appended to the Despatch

* *Vide* Appendix, No. 2, p. 421.

Enclosure 1.

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of the Governor of Sierra Leone, marked "Separate," and dated the 30th June 1857, are some which are identical with those of 27 Africans, who, in 1849, were considered entitled to back passages to that colony.

2. It is, however, I think very doubtful how far identity of name in these cases may be considered as establishing identity of person; and it will be perceived that in the year 1852, when an opportunity of returning to Sierra Leone presented itself, of which 49 Africans availed themselves, none of the 27 now referred to came forward to claim their rights in this respect. The Agent General, however, very properly points out that the notice on the occasion was very short.

3. A similar difficulty will, I fear, always occur, as illustrated by the more recent instance of the transport "Perseverance," which conveyed, in the year 1856, 17 African immigrants back to Sierra Leone; but on which occasion the 27 now referred to, or such of them as were alive, must have either again pretermitted their opportunity, or abandoned their desire of leaving the colony.

4. There are still, however, a few immigrants from Africa in this colony desirous of returning thither, and entitled to free passages; and I beg to assure you that their cases shall receive due attention when an opportunity of meeting their wishes can be found.

Enclosure 2.

5. I enclose a resolution of the late Board of Immigration Correspondence, in the case of one of these immigrants, named Robert Williams, which I brought before them. This Board, however, no longer exists, and their duties are transferred to the Governor and Executive Committee.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. 1, in No. 7.

Enclosure 1, in No. 7.

Sir, Immigration Office, 23 December 1857.

With reference to your letter, No. 484 of the 15th instant, enclosing a copy of a Despatch, with its enclosure, from the Secretary of State, I have in reply the honour to state, that I have compared the names you have forwarded to me with the names in the register of African immigrants in the Immigration Office, and can only identify twenty-seven (27) names corresponding with those who emigrated to this colony, under the promise of return passages.

These twenty-seven (27) Africans, whose names I have enclosed, came hither in 1843 and 1844 in the transport "Glen Huntly," and in 1849 they and several of their countrymen transmitted their applications to me for return passages, in conformation with the Immigration Act then in force, which directed that every immigrant, entitled to the benefit of a return passage, should give six months' notice of his intention to demand it. These applications amounted to two hundred and thirty-one (231), which were all transmitted to Sir C. Grey by me, in two reports, dated the 19th and 20th April 1849. In these reports I divided the applications for return passages into three classes. The first I considered comprised all Africans (except natives of the Kroo country) introduced into this colony prior to any enactments providing for their return, and whose claims are founded on the alleged promises of certain agents who were employed on the coast of Africa by the Jamaica Government; the second embraces all those introduced immediately after the British Government undertook, in 1843, the superintendence of emigration from Africa, and whose claims are based on the conditions laid down in Lord Stanley's Despatch of the 25th February 1843; and the third class includes all Africans within the meaning of the 7th Vict. c. 29, namely, all those who have resided in Jamaica from 1st January 1844, the day on which the Act came into force.

The register to which I have referred was commenced in 1843, and the names of the Africans who emigrated in the two previous years, were not inserted in it, simply because they were not entitled under any Colonial enactment to return passages.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Ewart,*
A. G. I.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.
Governor's Secretary, King's House.

(No. 519.)

Governor's Secretary's Office, King's House,
24 December 1857.

Sir,

I AM instructed by the Governor with reference to the second paragraph of your letter, No. 129, of yesterday's date, to request you to state for his Excellency's information, why the 27 Africans whose names you enclosed, and who were entitled to a return passage, were not furnished with the means of returning to Africa in 1849, when you transmitted the applications to Sir C. Grey.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Gov. Sec.

D. Ewart, Esq.
A. G. I.

(No. 131.)

Immigration Office, 28 December 1857.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter, No. 519 of the 24th instant, I have the honour to state that no provision was made for the return of any of the African immigrants till 1851, when the Commissioners of Public Accounts directed that 60 of them should be sent back to Sierra Leone, in the ship "Glentanner," which vessel arrived here in the month of April in that year, and was bound by contract to return to Africa.

Of this engagement to return, the Commissioners were not aware until after the arrival of the "Glentanner," and as the notice given to the Africans was unavoidably insufficient, not more than forty-nine (49) were prepared to depart when the ship was ready to sail. On that occasion, none of the twenty-seven (27) Africans referred to in my letter, No. 129 of the 23d instant, were ready to leave Jamaica, and since 1852, no provision has been made for the return passages of African immigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Ewart,*
A. G. I.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.
Governor's Secretary, King's House.

Enclosure 2, in No. 7.

Encl. 2, in No. 7.

EXTRACT from Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Immigration Correspondence, held at King's House, on the 4th September 1857.

"Read, a Report from the Agent General of Immigration on the petition of Robert Williams, an emigrant from Sierra Leone, to be allowed a return passage to that place:—

"*Resolved*—That applications for return passages to Africa cannot be entertained by th Board, as, under existing circumstances, no opportunity of obtaining such passages ar afforded."

—No. 8.—

(No 53.)

No. 8.
Governor Darling, to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. 26 March 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

King's House, 26 March 1858.
(Received, 19 April 1858.)

My Lord,

(Answered, No. 30, 21 May 1858, p. 287)

THE short time which has elapsed since I received Mr. Secretary Labouchere's Despatch, No. 67* of the 25th ultimo, obliges me to confine my reply to the request that Despatch contains for information as to the wages and other advantages enjoyed by labourers in the colony, to the transmission of the accompanying copy of a letter from the Agent General of Immigration. Enclosure.

* Page 279.

2. I shall take an early opportunity of forwarding any further information which it may appear to me to be desirable to place Her Majesty's Government in possession of upon the subject; and in the meantime I beg to refer to my Despatch No. 36,† of the 10th instant, in which I pointed out certain advantages peculiar, as I believe, to this colony, which were open to immigrants of all descriptions.

† Page 208.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure in No. 8.

Encl. in No. 8.

(No. 54.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 25 March 1858.

With reference to the memorandum of agreement between the Emigration Commissioners and Messieurs Hyde, Hodge & Co., accompanying the Secretary of State's Despatch, No. 67 of 25th February last, which you enclosed to me in your letter, No. 263 of the 23d instant, I have the honour to offer the following few words upon the rate of wages and mode of labour in Jamaica.

The differences that exist in the rate of plantation wages are considerable. In the cutting of canes, for example, one mode of payment is by daily wages, a second is by the chain, a third is by a certain allowance for a given quantity of cane juice, and a fourth by the acre. From this diversity, which exists in nearly all other agricultural operations, no sufficiently accurate statement can, I believe, be made of the rates of wages; but labour is generally performed by the job or piece, by which the labourers may earn from 2*s.* to 3*s.* a day. To intelligent labourers, therefore, from Africa, the freest scope for their industry will be thus afforded; but should they prefer day wages, 1*s* a-day will be paid to them, with house accommodation, sufficient land for a garden, and medical attendance free of charge.

With respect to the question whether this Government will be prepared to pay a bounty of 5*l.* on free adult Africans from Sierra Leone, I conceive that sufficient provision has been made under the Act 21 Vict. c. 5, by which that bounty could at this moment be paid; and contracts with this class of immigrants for three years would be lawful under the 19th section of this Act.

With regard to liberated Africans, the principle laid down by Her Majesty's Government some time ago for their employment in the West Indies, was that on their arrival here the agents of immigration were required to make contracts on their behalf, and to regulate both their food and labour, not by any scale of money wages, at least for the first year, but by a consideration of what is right for their physical well-being, and for their moral improvement. If they are, however, to be hereafter allotted upon the same footing with the free immigrants from Sierra Leone, the form of contract annexed to the Immigration Act of 1857 will probably be applicable to their case.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Ewart,*
A. G. I.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.
Governor's Secretary, King's House.

— No. 9. —

No. 9. Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. 29 March 1858.

(No. 54.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

King's House, 29 March 1858.
(Received, 5 May 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 25, 10 May 1858, p. 285.)

Memorial. 12 March 1858.

I have the honour to transmit herewith a memorial which is signed T. E. Henderson, on behalf of a meeting of the "lately emancipated population," held at Watford, in the parish of Hanover, of which meeting Mr. Henderson was chairman.

2. As the memorial is in its statements and language identical with that which I had the honour to transmit with my Despatch, No. 44* of 19th instant, to your Lordship's predecessor, I have only respectfully to refer your Lordship to the observations which that Despatch contains, and to acquaint your Lordship that Mr. Henderson is one of the ministers of the Baptist persuasion to whom reference is made in its concluding paragraph.

* Page 208.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure in No. 9.

Encl. in No. 9.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

The humble Memorial of a large number of the lately Emancipated Labourers, and others, assembled at *Watford Hill*, in the Parish of *Hanover*, on the 12th day of March 1858;

Humbly showeth,

That your memorialists have seen with surprise and alarm an enactment under the title of "An Act to amend the laws relating to agricultural immigrants, and raising funds to defray the expenses attendant upon their introduction and subsequent colonisation in the island," which passed the Legislature of this island during the last session, and which was so hurried through its several stages as to prevent the possibility of your memorialists even expressing an opinion on either its principle or its details.

Your

Your memorialists are under the impression that the said Act was originated on the supposition that the labourers in the country were unwilling to give their energies in the promotion of agriculture, and the production of the staple exports of the colony.

Your memorialists would earnestly assure your most Gracious Majesty that such is not the fact, and that they have since 1838, when emancipation was bestowed upon them, been willing to work for adequate wages, and under proper treatment, and they are still in the different localities in which they reside, labouring on sugar estates for hire.

Your memorialists believe that the Act above referred to will most materially affect their interests, and for the following reasons, amongst others that might be mentioned, would implore your most Gracious Majesty to withhold from it your royal assent.

1st. Because the introduction of the proposed class of labourers will, to a very great extent, deprive those now in the colony of the principal means they have of obtaining money with which to support themselves and their families.

2d. Because your memorialists are convinced that there is no general want of labour for the cultivation of the soil, and the production of sugar, rum, &c. (except at certain seasons of the year), unless it arises from one or other of the following causes: the very low and inadequate wages that are held out as an inducement to more continuous labour; the irregular and long periods at which wages are paid when due; and the frequent and unfair treatment shown by the employer towards the employed.

3d. Because the introduction of Chinese and coolie immigrants is likely to call forth the most undesirable feelings in the minds of the peasantry of this island towards the proprietors, and the managers of West India properties, and perpetuate that disunion of feeling and interest which has hitherto been the bane of the country.

4th. Because your memorialists are convinced that the Act under which it is proposed to apprentice the intending immigrants is coercive in its character, and by its several clauses will destroy their civil liberties and rights as men, and may be used as an engine of cruelty and oppression in the same manner, if not to the same degree, as the "apprenticeship system," which came into operation in lieu of slavery in 1834, and which happily expired in 1838.

5th. Because your memorialists have the strongest reason to fear that it is impossible to obtain immigrants from the continent of Africa or India without purchase or fraud, and thus a semi-slave trade be renewed with all its attendant injustice and atrocity.

6th. Because your memorialists are fearful that the introduction of a number of heathen and pagan foreigners, with their religious superstitions, idolatry, and wickedness, will act most injuriously on the morals of the inhabitants of the island, and hinder very much the efforts that are now in operation for their religious and moral improvement.

7th. Because the Act in question makes no reference to, or provision for, the secular and religious instruction of the immigrants that may come under it; nor is there any clause which provides for admission to the properties where they are located of ministers of the Gospel who may be desirous of visiting them with a view to their spiritual benefit.

Signed on behalf of the meeting,

J. E. Henderson, Chairman.

—No. 10.—

(No. 56.)

No. 10.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P.
9 April 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling*, to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

King's House, 9 April 1858.
(Received, 5 May 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 26, 12 May 1858, p. 286.)

With reference to my Despatches, Nos. 44* and 54*, of the 19th and 29th ultimo respectively, I have the honour to transmit a further memorial against the passing of the "Immigration Act, 1857," 21 Vict. c. 5, signed by the Reverend Ellis Fray, a Baptist minister, on behalf of a meeting of the labouring population held on the 25th of last month, at Falmouth in the parish of Trelawney.

* Pages 208 & 214.

Memorial. 25 March 1858.

2. This memorial being similar to those already forwarded, I have no further observations to offer thereupon than those contained in my above quoted Despatch, No. 44 of the 19th of March 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

JAMAICA.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Enclosure in No. 10.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

THE humble Memorial of a large number of the lately Emancipated Labourers and others assembled at *Falmouth*, in the parish of *Trelawney*, on the 25th day of March 1858.

Humbly showeth,

THAT your memorialists have seen with surprise and alarm an enactment under the title of "An Act to amend the Laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, and for raising Funds to defray the expenses attendant upon their introduction and subsequent Colonisation in the Island," which passed the legislature of this island during its last session, and which was so hurried through its several stages as to prevent the possibility of your memorialists even expressing an opinion on either its principle or its details.

Your memorialists are under the impression that the said Act was originated on the supposition that the labourers in this country were unwilling to give their energies in the promotion of agriculture, and the production of the staple exports of the colony.

Your memorialists would earnestly assure Your Most Gracious Majesty that such is *not* the fact; and that they have since 1838, when emancipation was bestowed upon them, been willing to work for adequate wages, and under proper treatment, and they are still in the different localities in which they reside, labouring on sugar estates for hire.

Your memorialists believe that the Act above referred to will most materially affect their interests, and for the following reasons, amongst others that might be mentioned, would implore your Most Gracious Majesty to withhold from it Your Royal Assent.

1st. Because the introduction of the proposed class of labourers will, to a very great extent, deprive those now in the colony of the principal means they have of obtaining money with which to support themselves and their families.

2d. Because your memorialists are convinced that there is no general want of labour for the cultivation of the soil, and the production of sugar, rum, &c., except at certain seasons of the year, unless it arises from one or other of the following causes: the very low and inadequate wages that are held out as an inducement to more continuous labour, the irregular and long periods at which wages are paid when due, and the frequent unkind and unfair treatment shown by the employer towards the employed.

3d. Because the introduction of Chinese and coolie immigrants is likely to call forth the most undesirable feelings in the minds of the peasantry of this island towards the proprietors and managers of West India properties, and perpetuate that disunion of feeling and interest which has hitherto been the bane of the country.

4th. Because your memorialists are convinced that the Act under which it is proposed to apprentice the intending immigrants is coercive in its character, and by its several clauses will destroy their civil liberties and rights as men, and may be used as an engine of cruelty and oppression in the same manner, if not to the same degree, as the "apprenticeship system," which came into operation in lieu of slavery in 1834, and which happily expired in 1838.

5th. Because your memorialists have the strongest reason to fear that it is impossible to obtain immigrants from the continent of Africa or India without purchase or fraud, and thus a semi-slave trade be renewed with all its attendant injustice and atrocity.

6th. Because your memorialists are fearful that the introduction of a number of heathen and pagan foreigners, with their religious superstitions, idolatry and wickedness, will act most injuriously on the morals of the inhabitants of the island, and hinder very much the efforts that are now in operation for their religious and moral improvement.

7th. Because the Act in question makes no reference to, or provision for the secular and religious instruction of the immigrants that may come under it, nor is there any clause which provides for admission to the properties where they are located of ministers of the gospel who may be desirous of visiting them with a view to their spiritual benefit.

Signed on behalf of the meeting,

Ellis Fray, Chairman.

—No. 11.—

No. 11. Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. 21 April 1858.

(No. 59.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

King's House, 21 April 1858.
(Received, 18 May 1858.)

Governor Keate to Lieut. Governor Walker. 23 February 1858. Enclosure.

My Lord, (Answered, No. 5, 21 June 1858, p. 290.)

THE enclosed letter having appeared in a colonial newspaper, I lose not a moment in respectfully expressing my hope, that this colony will be afforded the opportunity of participating in any project which Her Majesty's Government may sanction for obtaining immigrants from Bombay.

2. The

2. The documents alluded to in the first paragraph of Mr. Keates' letter not having been communicated to me, I am of course uninformed both of the details of the proposed scheme therein referred to and of the reasons which may have induced its limitation to the Colonies of Trinidad and British Guiana; but I gather from the terms of the document itself, that there is nothing in the plan, that either of those Colonies is desirous of adopting, which is not equally feasible with respect to Jamaica.

3. A statement, with an appearance of authenticity, has also received newspaper publicity among the West Indian Colonies, to the effect, that the Colonial Agent General of Immigration for Demerara, is about to proceed to China for the purpose of facilitating the migration of labourers from that country to the colony in question. If this report be in any degree founded in fact, I have to make on behalf of this Colony, an earnest request, that a similar opportunity may be afforded to its Government, of endeavouring to augment that portion of the labouring population, who will work for wages in the employment of the larger proprietary, instead of cultivating the soil upon their own account.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure in No. 11.

Encl. in No. 11.

EXTRACT from the "Morning Journal" Newspaper, under date, Kingston, Jamaica, 12 April 1858.

Sir, Government House, Trinidad, 23 February 1858.

I RECEIVED by last mail a despatch from Mr. Secretary Labouchere, enclosing a copy of a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject of emigration from Bombay, to be conducted by private parties, and suggesting that if British Guiana and Trinidad are desirous of making an attempt to procure labour from that quarter, in the manner proposed next season, it would be desirable that no time should be lost in arriving at some plan of operations acceptable to both, and that it might facilitate such a step if I were to place myself in direct communication with your Excellency.

The planters of British Guiana, if I understand rightly, are prepared to make the attempt but in a modified form; that is to say, it is proposed that, instead of individual planters, the local Government shall conduct the undertaking on their behalf. Practically, it will make no difference whether the agent to be appointed to act in Bombay for both Colonies receives his instructions from private persons or from the Colonial Government; in both cases there could be the same absence of intermediate communication with the Colonial Office or the Emigration Commissioners; and in this respect the emigration of labourers to Trinidad under contract with its Government, in ships chartered in its name, would bear the character of a private venture quite as much as that of such as may be shipped under engagements with private individuals in ships chartered by them, but in accordance with Government regulations. The chief points to be arranged, then, between the two Colonies would seem to be the proportion of the salary of the agent which each should bear, and the proportion and rotation in which he should be required to fill ships for either place, however chartered. It is suggested that the amount of the salary should be not less than 1,000 *l.* or 2,000 *l.* per annum, and that the determination of this point should be left to the Home Government, and that the gentleman to be appointed should not be connected with British Guiana. Perhaps it would be best that some one already resident in Bombay should be nominated, so as to obviate loss of time, and that the Governor of that Presidency should be requested to select a gentleman competent at once to undertake the duties. All questions regarding proportion and rotation, whether of salary or of the filling and despatch of ships, might probably be satisfactorily settled by reference to the arrangements already in force in that respect for regulating the emigration from Calcutta; but as the subject of emigration to be conducted by private parties from Bombay has been, I believe, fully discussed in British Guiana, I would expect your Excellency to furnish me with your views on all these points before I venture to go further into them.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

His Excellency William Walker,
Lieutenant Governor, &c., British Guiana.

JAMAICA.

No. 12.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. 26 April 1858.

— No. 12. —

(No. 62.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

King's House, 26 April 1858.
(Received, 18 May 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 3, 7 June 1858, p. 289.)

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying Return received from the Agent General of Immigration relative to the embarkation of 126 Indian immigrants, equal to 101 stutute adults, on board the "Sir George Pollock," which vessel left Jamaica for Calcutta on the 13th instant. Enclosure.

2. Your Lordship will perceive by the enclosed copies of two letters from Mr. Ewart, that this number is considered to comprise every Indian immigrant of that class who were desirous of accepting the return passage guaranteed by this colony, with the exception of five coolies who, for some cause or other, declined sailing in the "Sir George Pollock." Enclosure 2. Enclosure 3.

3. I also transmit copy of the charterparty entered into with the agents of the "Sir George Pollock," which vessel recently conveyed a detachment of the 41st Regiment from England to this island. Previous, however, to chartering this ship, I caused her to be surveyed by two competent persons, the shipping-master at the port of Kingston, and Mr. Uter, a master shipwright, who reported her as seaworthy and fit, in all respects, for the intended voyage.

4. The certificates from the Surgeon, together with his letter of appointment enclosed herewith, will prove that he was satisfied as to the healthy state of the returned immigrants, and the sufficiency of the stock of medicines and clothing laid in for their use.

5. I have also the honour to enclose a descriptive roll, in duplicate, of the immigrants embarked (as required in a letter received from Mr. Young, the Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal,) for transmission to the Indian authorities, should your Lordship deem that course necessary, the Agent General of Immigration having already forwarded one copy of the said descriptive roll to the Protector of Immigrants at Calcutta direct in the "Sir George Pollock."

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. 1, in No. 12.

Enclosure 1, in No. 12.

(No. 89.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 12 April 1858.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will lay before his Excellency the Governor the Returns enumerated in the margin* relating to the East Indian Immigrants who embarked on Saturday, the 10th instant, on board the "Sir George Pollock."

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Ewart*, A.G.I.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary, &c., King's House.

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* Sub-Enclosure 1.—Descriptive list of the number of coolies embarked.
Sub-Enclosure 2.—Medical certificate.
Sub-Enclosure 3.—Certificate respecting supply of warm clothing.
Sub-Enclosure 4.—Copy of letter of appointment to the surgeon.
Sub-Enclosure 5.—Surgeon's receipt for warm clothing.

Sub-Enclosure 1 to Enclosure 1, in No. 12.

Immigration Office, Kingston, Jamaica,
12 April 1858.

SCHEDULE of Numbers of Indian Immigrants embarked on Board the Ship "Sir George Pollock," at the Port of *Kingston, Jamaica*, for *Calcutta*.

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Adults - - - - - - - -	55	26	81
Children between 1 and 12 years - -	24	16	40
Under one year - - - - - -	- -	- -	5
TOTAL Number of Souls - - -	79	42	126

Equal to 101 statute adults, no charge being for five children under one year of age.

I hereby certify that I have received on board the ship "Sir George Pollock" for conveyance from Jamaica to Calcutta the number of Indian immigrants specified in the above schedule.

(signed) *Thomas H. Withers*,
Master of the Ship "Sir George Pollock."

Sub-Enclosure 2 to Enclosure 1, in No. 12.

(MEDICAL CERTIFICATE.)

Immigration Office, Kingston, Jamaica,
12 April 1858.

I HEREBY certify that I have inspected the medicine chest of the ship "Sir George Pollock," and also the passengers about to proceed in her, and that the ship contains a sufficient supply of medicines, medical comforts, lime juice, disinfecting fluid, or agent, instruments, and other things requisite for the medical treatment of the passengers during the voyage from Jamaica to Calcutta, and also certify that none of the passengers appear to me likely, by reason of being affected by any infectious or other disease, to endanger the health of the other persons about to proceed in the ship.

D. Ewart, Esq.,
Agent General of Immigration,
Kingston, Jamaica.

(signed) *John S. Gerard*,
Surgeon Superintendent.

Sub-Enclosure 3 to Enclosure 1, in No. 12.

CERTIFICATE respecting Supply of Warm Clothing.

Immigration Office, Kingston, Jamaica,
12 April 1858.

I HEREBY certify that the coolie immigrants embarked on board the ship "Sir George Pollock" are supplied with sufficient warm clothing to meet the variations of temperature to which they may be exposed on the voyage from Jamaica to Calcutta.

(signed) *John S. Gerard*,
Surgeon Superintendent.

David Ewart, Esq,
Agent General of Immigration,
Kingston, Jamaica.

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Sub-Enclosure 4 to Enclosure 1, in No. 12.

(No. 64.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 6 April 1858.

1. I AM directed by the Government of Jamaica to state that they hereby appoint you to be the surgeon superintendent of the ship "Sir George Pollock" for the conveyance of return coolies to India, and which vessel is expected to sail on the 10th instant.

2. You will be good enough to put yourself as soon as possible in communication with the master of the "Sir George Pollock," and to see that the supply of medicines according to the scale contained in the charterparty are on board, and of good quality.

3. Your remuneration will consist, first, of a free cabin passage (with diet at the captain's table) from Jamaica to the port of disembarkation in the East Indies; secondly, of a gratuity of four rupees for each coolie landed alive in the East Indies, provided you discharge your duties to the satisfaction of the local authorities at Calcutta, and the sum of one hundred pounds (100 *l.*) for your maintenance in the East Indies, and to enable you to return to Jamaica.

4. You will be pleased to acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

I have, &c.

J. S. Gerard, Esq., (signed) *D. Ewart,*
Surgeon Superintendent, Ship "Sir George Pollock." A. G. I.

Sub-Enclosure 5 to Enclosure 1, in No. 12.

Kingston, Jamaica, 12 April 1858.

RECEIVED of David Ewart, Esq., five dozen 10/4 coloured rugs, two pieces 88 yards indigo blue union, and 13 dozens socks, for use of the immigrants embarked on board the ship "Sir George Pollock.

(signed) *John Stothert Gerard,*
Surgeon Superintendent.

David Ewart, Esq.,
Agent General of Immigration,
Kingston, Jamaica.

Encl. 2, in No. 12

Enclosure 2, in No. 12.

(No. 91.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 13 April 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the ship "Sir George Pollock" sailed this morning from the port of Kingston, with the coolies who embarked on the 10th instant, comprising every immigrant of this class who was desirous of accepting the return passage guaranteed by this colony.

I have, &c.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq., (signed) *D. Ewart,*
Governor's Secretary, King's House. A. G. I.

Encl 3, in No. 12.

Enclosure 3, in No. 12.

(No. 90.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 13 April 1858.

I HAVE the honour to state that a quarrel having occurred among the coolies, five immigrants entitled to return passages have refused to proceed to India, which has reduced the number placed on board to 101 statute adults, and the passage money to be paid now to Messrs. Davidson, Colthirst & Co. to 770 *l.* 2 *s.* 6 *d.*, which has been paid accordingly.

I have, &c.

W. R. Myers, Esq. (signed) *D. Ewart,*
Secretary to the Executive Committee. A. G. I.

—No. 13.—

(No. 69.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

No. 13.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P.
4 May 1858.

King's House, 4 May 1858.
(Received, 31 May 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 1, 7 June 1858, p. 288.)

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a memorial addressed to the Queen's Most excellent Majesty in Council, by missionaries of the London Missionary Society in this island, praying that Her Majesty will graciously withhold her sanction from the "Jamaica Immigration Act, 1857."

Enclosure.

2. I believe that these missionaries are labouring zealously in their sacred calling, and with more than an ordinary degree of success in their educational efforts amongst the juvenile population; but I cannot suppose that they are competent judges of the questions whether more labour is or is not wanting on estates in order to render the capital, sunk thereon, productive, or of the rate of wages which the average profits of the employer will allow him to offer.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure in No. 13.

Encl. in No. 13.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

The Memorial of the undersigned Missionaries of the London Missionary Society, in the Island of *Jamaica*, representing about 5,000 of its Agricultural and other Inhabitants,

Humbly showeth,

THAT your memorialists acknowledge with unfeigned gratitude to Almighty God, your most gracious Majesty the Queen, and the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, the blessings of freedom which has been conferred on the inhabitants of this colony and other dependencies of the British Crown; and cherish the hope that no measure calculated to impair the work of emancipation, which is a monument of British justice, philanthropy, and religion, will at any time receive your Majesty's sanction.

That while your memorialists deplore the agricultural and commercial depression which has been so generally experienced in Jamaica since the establishment of freedom, they are convinced that such depression does not result from an actual want of labour on estates where the people are fairly remunerated, nor, as has been alleged, to the indolence or dissipation of the peasantry; and they humbly submit that a Bill, which has lately passed the Legislature of this country, entitled, "An Act to amend the Laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, and for raising Funds to defray the Expenses attendant upon their Introduction, and subsequent Colonisation in the Island," especially clauses 13th, 14th, 26th, 29th, 36th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 45th, 46th, 48th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 69th, 73d, 76th, 82d, 86th, 87th, and 88th, is calculated injuriously to affect the whole community, but especially the labouring population, and seriously to impair some of the advantages resulting from emancipation.

Your memorialists cannot but fear, from these clauses, and considerations therewith connected, that should the Bill above mentioned obtain your Majesty's sanction, it will be attended with much evil in its operation.

1. Because its proposed advantages have reference to only a part of the population, to the employer and some official agents, and not to the masses of the people, whose morals will be corrupted, whose services, to a certain extent, will be dispensed with on the estates, and whose property will be taxed to assist in defraying the expenses connected with the introduction of foreign labourers, while the system of apprenticeship, to which the immigrants will be subjected, will deprive them of their rights as freemen, subject them to many of the evils of slavery, and leave them without any provision being made for their moral and religious improvement.

2. Your memorialists believe, that, although provision is made by the Act, to obtain the consent of immigrants, previous to their embarkation, to serve any employer, to whom they may be indentured by the immigration agents, yet your memorialists fear that the immigrants will not fully understand the nature of the engagements by which they will be bound, and are persuaded that the operation of this Bill will be injurious to the cause of liberty, in relation to Africans especially, because inducements will be held out to African chiefs to expatriate their subjects, a demand for slaves will be thereby created in the African market in proportion to the demand for immigrants in the Colonies; and while your memorialists,

JAMAICA.

morialists are unwilling to believe that the effect of this scheme upon the civilisation and happiness of the African race will be as deplorable as the slave trade, in the form in which it is carried on by outlaws, yet they cannot but believe that it will be attended with evil consequences among the native tribes of Africa, who, as formerly, will war with each other for the capture of slaves.

3. Your memorialists are convinced that this Act, should it obtain the sanction of your Majesty in Council, will not only be unfavourable to the labouring population, oppressive to the immigrants, and injurious to the community in general, but will produce disaffection and strife, fail in supplying the amount of labour which is expected, and be ruinous in its pecuniary results. A conviction which your memorialists believe is sustained by the failure of every similar scheme which has been tried.

4. Your memorialists humbly submit, that the approval and confirmation of this Act by your Majesty in Council would detract from the honour of Great Britain, and may be regarded by the United States and other nations as a violation of the treaties, into which Great Britain has entered with them for the suppression of the slave trade, and excite the Southern States of America and some of the European powers to a revival of the traffic.

That your memorialists therefore, regarding this Act as a measure to legalise a system of apprenticeship, which must deprive the intended immigrant of his rights and liberties, as unjust towards the great majority of the inhabitants of this island, as injurious to the social, moral, and spiritual interests of the whole community, as highly impolitic, as calculated to produce disaffection among the native population, and to stimulate other nations more vigorously to prosecute the slave trade, together with other considerations, earnestly implore your Majesty graciously to withhold your Royal sanction from the said Act.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(signed) *Wm. Alloway*, Mandeville, Manchester.
T. H. Clark, Four Paths, Clarendon.
Alexr. Lindo, Whitefield Porns, Manchester.
Joseph Miller, Davyton, Manchester.
Wm. Hillyer, Mount Zion, Clarendon.
W. J. Gardner, Kingston.
Jas. Milne, Dry Harbour.
W. C. Harty, Morant Bay.

— No. 14. —

No. 14.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 1 May 1858.

(No. 70.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

King's House, 1 May 1858.
(Received, 31 May 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered No. 2, 7 June 1858, p. 288.)

Enclosure.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a memorial which has been forwarded to me for that purpose, addressed to the Queen's Most excellent Majesty, in Council, and signed by the chairman and secretary of the meeting of the pastors and delegates of the Jamaica Baptist Union, held at Falmouth, during the last days of March and the first day of April last.

2. The prayer of the memorial is that Her Majesty will be pleased to withhold Her sanction from the Act of the last Session of the Legislature, which provides for the introduction of immigrants into this island; but the objections to the Act upon which this prayer is based are not such as appear to me to require any observations in addition to those which I have had the honour to submit in previous despatches in relation to the subject of immigration generally, as also when transmitting the Act which is complained of, and other representations already made against it.

3. I am not aware whether the memorial was adopted unanimously by the meeting of pastors and delegates from whom it proceeds, or only by a majority thereof; but I have reason to believe from correspondence which has been published in the colonial newspapers, that the Baptist ministers throughout the Colony are not accordant in their opinions as to the non-existence of a deficiency of labourers even for the estates now in cultivation, or as to the satisfactory nature in regard to cost and quality of the work obtained.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure in No. 14.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

The humble Memorial of Pastors and Delegates assembled in annual meeting of "The Jamaica Baptist Union," held in *Falmouth*, from Wednesday the 24th of March till Thursday the 1st of April 1858.

Showeth,

THAT your memorialists, who represent between forty-five and fifty thousand adherents, acknowledge with deep gratitude to God, and to Her most gracious Majesty the Queen, and the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, the universal establishment of freedom in Jamaica and other dependencies of the British Crown, not only because they believe the act of slave emancipation to have been one of imperative justice and religious obligation, but also because of the great blessings that have resulted therefrom to the masses of the population.

That your memorialists cannot but admit that great agricultural and commercial depression has been experienced in Jamaica since the passing of the Abolition Act, yet they are firmly persuaded that such depression has not been occasioned by idleness and dissipation on the part of the emancipated population, or by an actual deficiency of the labourers for the cultivation of the existing estates. They deeply regret to learn that an Act has lately passed the local Legislature, entitled "An Act to amend the Laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, and for defraying Expenses attendant upon their Introduction and subsequent Colonisation in the Island," an enactment that will in some of its provisions tend to a considerable degree to impair some of the most beneficial results of the Act of Emancipation.

Your memorialists refer to the following clauses of the Act as especially objectionable, viz., the 13th, 14th, 26th, 29th, 36th, 39th, 41st, 46th, 48th, and 56th. From these and other sections, irrespective of objections to the principle of the Bill, your memorialists cannot but perceive that it will be fraught with much evil in its operation,—

1. Because the system of apprenticeship to which the immigrant will be subjected, will deprive him of his inalienable rights as a freeman, and entail on him many of the inconveniences, if not some of the worst evils of slavery.

2. Your memorialists are persuaded that this Act will operate injuriously to the cause of liberty in relation to Africa, inasmuch as by holding out inducements to the African chiefs to expatriate their subjects, evidently implied if not expressed in the Act, a demand for slaves will be thereby created in the African market in proportion to the demand; for while your memorialists are unwilling to believe that the effect of this scheme upon the civilisation and happiness of the African race may not be so deplorable as the slave trade in the cruel form in which it is now carried on by outlaws, yet they cannot but believe that it will be less productive of evil influences among the native tribes of Africa, who will war with each other for the capture of slaves as heretofore.

3. Your memorialists are decidedly of opinion that this scheme, should it be confirmed by Her Majesty in Council, will not only prove oppressive to the immigrant and injurious to the country in general, inducing disaffection and discord, together with insecurity of life and property, now so happily obviated by the act of emancipation, but that it will fail in its pecuniary results to the advocates of the measure. This latter consideration, your memorialists feel assured, is sustained by the great expense involved in the transport of immigrants from different parts of the world, and by the great outlay necessary to the support of all but Africans, for articles of diet which this island does not produce.

4. The approval and confirmation of this Act on the part of Her Majesty in Council, your memorialists humbly submit, would be impolitic, tending to tarnish the honour of England; inasmuch as, in accordance with the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown, in relation to Africans imported into the island of Trinidad in 1842, it would be in opposition to and an infringement of the slave trade abolition law, and would be regarded by America and other nations as an invasion of the fair intent and object of the treaties into which Great Britain has entered with them for the suppression of the slave trade, and stimulate the Southern States to a renewal of that traffic.

That your memorialists, therefore, viewing this act as tending to the establishment of a legalised system of serfdom, as injurious to the moral and religious progress of the people, as contrary to sound political economy, as tending to create disaffection among the native peasantry, and to furnish a pretext for the renewal or more successful prosecution of the slave trade by other nations, with other considerations, earnestly pray that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to withhold her sanction to the said Act, and thus prevent its further operation.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(signed) *D. J. East*,
Chairman.
Benjamin Millard,
Secretary.

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— No. 15. —

No. 15.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M. P. 25 May 1858.

(No. 79.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

King's House, 25 May 1858.
(Received, 15 June 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 29, 14 September 1858, p. 292.)

1. I HAVE the honour to acknowlege the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, No. 17,* of the 16th ultimo.

* Page 280.

2. I have learned with great concern from that Despatch that Her Majesty's Government, seeing reason to object to important provisions of the Act passed in the last Session of the Legislature of this Island, 21 Vict. c. 5, "To amend the Laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, and for raising Funds to defray the Expenses attendant upon their Introduction and subsequent Colonisation in the Island," have felt it necessary altogether to disallow the Act in question. I venture to express my regret that the circumstances of the case should not, in your Lordship's opinion, have admitted of Her Majesty's confirmation of the Act being deferred until it should have been amended in conformity to the principles which it is considered proper to enforce.

3. Your Lordship will better understand why I feel regret on this account, when I observe that the main object of the disallowed Act was to place at the command of the local Government funds, by which an extensive introduction of suitable labourers from any quarter approved by Her Majesty's Government might be accomplished, and to transfer to the Governor, and to the Executive Committee as a responsible body, the duty of directing and prosecuting the necessary measures for that purpose, which of late years had rested with the Board of Immigration Correspondence; while entirely subordinate to these purposes was the consolidation of existing laws, and their amendment in any particulars in which changes might have been sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, since the principal local statutes upon the subject (15 Vict. cc. 38 & 39) were passed.

4. The variation in composition, the fluctuations in opinions and decisions, which characterise representative bodies in general, and the whole history of the financial legislation of this Colony upon the subject of immigration, render it, I fear, extremely doubtful, whether under the circumstances in which the question must be again presented to the Legislature, the Government will succeed in obtaining such extensive pecuniary powers as the disallowed Act conveyed, however carefully the provisions for conferring such powers may be adapted to throw the expense of the introduction of immigrants upon those who more immediately benefit by their labour, and the cost of their return upon that branch of the revenue, to which the immigrants, after having improved their own condition and circumstances, must themselves have largely, although indirectly, contributed.

5. I cannot, however, advert to the feeling of regret and disappointment with which the local Government have become aware of your Lordship's decision, without respectfully assuring you, that this sentiment is on my part aggravated by the reflection that a misapprehension of the principles sanctioned by the laws already on our statute book, into which, as I shall presently show, I was unfortunately, but I am sure unintentionally, led, should have occasioned me to submit a measure which has appeared to you to require the adoption of a course that I am sensible must have been to your Lordship a most painful one; since it bears the appearance of discouraging the efforts which the Legislature of Jamaica had with unprecedented unanimity resolved upon making to retrieve the agricultural and commercial prosperity of the island. I am not, indeed, without hope that the disallowance of the Act may have been considered by Her Majesty's Government, as your Lordship informs me that it was, to be "inevitable," in view of the probable introduction, during the present year, of both African and Indian immigrants, who will thus be brought under the operation of the laws that will, by such disallowance, be revived.

6. I shall, however, with your Lordship's permission, defer the observations upon this point, which I am desirous of submitting to your consideration, and proceed

proceed to offer those explanations which the circumstances of the case and the remarks your Lordship has been pleased to convey to me in reference to the disallowed Act, seem to render proper and desirable.

7. I must first, then, beg to assure your Lordship that the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch of the 7th March 1854,* with its enclosures (although undoubtedly its applicability to present circumstances was not assumed), was "overlooked" neither by myself nor my advisers in the Executive Committee. On the contrary, I read those documents carefully, and placed them in the hands of the gentlemen of the committee, who I found were perfectly aware of their contents, having had occasion to refer to them when engaged in preparing the Act of the Session of 1856, 20 Vict. c. 8. The Despatch had been, moreover, formally transmitted to the Legislature, and being on record in the printed minutes of the House of Assembly, was within the cognisance of every member of both branches. I must here, however, state that I failed to understand the terms of that Despatch as requiring, even at the time of its receipt in the Colony, any amendment of the then existing laws (15 Vict. cc. 38 & 39). I conceived that it pointed only to new legislation, should the Colony think proper to adopt the modifications respecting coolie labourers which had been sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, modifications which it is abundantly obvious from the language of the Despatch, and of the extract Despatch which accompanied it, were designed for the benefit of the planter, as I find, indeed, is distinctly stated in the report from the Emigration Commissioners, enclosed in Mr. Secretary Labouchere's Despatch to me of the 15th January last.† Whatever advantages the Acts of the 15 Vict. cc. 38 & 39 had already conferred upon the planter I considered, therefore, to be undisturbed by the instructions of the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch.

* *Vide* Papers presented Aug. 1857, p. 240.

† Page 277.

8. But I am free also to admit, that I entertained doubt whether, after the lapse of nearly four years and the intervening administration of three other statesmen at the head of the Colonial Department, the restrictions of the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch were necessarily applicable to the legislation of last Session: a doubt which will not, I trust, be considered unwarranted, when I state that it was materially founded in the fact, that the legislation on immigration which had taken place so recently as the Session of 1856, namely, that contained in the first clauses of the Act, 20 Vict. c. 8, and which originated in, and was expressly sanctioned by the Despatch of your Lordship's predecessor, No. 34,‡ of the 15th April 1856, embraced a provision to which the Duke of Newcastle, in his Grace's Despatch referred to, had stated "he should strongly object;" namely, the obligation imposed upon Indian immigrants of five years' additional industrial residence under one or more successive contracts, or a "series of compulsory indentures."

‡ *Vide* Papers presented Aug. 1857, p. 246.

9. Having thus stated to your Lordship the view which I took of the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch at the period when I approached the subject of immigration preparatory to the first meeting of the Legislature after my assumption of the Government, it is necessary I should now show how I came to sanction the embodiment in the disallowed law of the principles of a five years' contract with the same employer, and an industrial residence of ten years.

10. In my Despatch to your Lordship's predecessor, No. 14,‖ of the 8th February last, I stated that, in consultation with the Executive Committee, principles had been agreed upon for meeting the cost of further efforts to increase by means of immigration the labouring population of the country upon which it was determined to appeal to the Legislature for the necessary enactment.

‖ Page 204.

The custom which has prevailed since the commencement of the existing constitution based upon the provisions of the 18th section of the Act, 17 Vict. c. 29, "for the better government of the island," is that the main principles of a proposed measure having been agreed upon with the Governor in Executive Committee, the Draft Act is then prepared either by the Secretary of the Committee, or (as in the present instance) by a member, who, at his own discretion, avails himself, or not, of legal assistance. In either case the draft is afterwards considered by the assembled Committee, and a copy of it submitted to the Governor.

11. In the present instance, my instruction (fully acquiesced in by the Committee) was, that in preparing the Bill, the main object of which, as I have already

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already observed, is of a financial character, the occasion should be taken to consolidate the existing laws upon the subject, and to graft upon the Bill all such other provisions in respect to the relative position and rights of the immigrants and their employers as Despatches from Her Majesty's Government, or recent changes in the laws of other immigration colonies which appeared adapted to the case of Jamaica, and were known to have been sanctioned by that Government, would warrant.

12. Not only was the draft of the Bill submitted to me as usual, accompanied by a statement, of which I enclose a copy, purporting to show the corresponding clauses of laws about to be repealed, and of the Demerara Ordinance, No. 7,* of October 1854, but some of the details by which its main principles were to be carried out were previously thrown together by the member who took charge of it in the shape of memoranda, and considered by the Committee and myself.

* *Vide* Papers presented Aug. 1857, p. 418.

Enclosure 1.

I take leave to enclose copies of these documents also, and if your Lordship will be good enough to refer to that forming Enclosure No. 2, you will perceive that a five years' contract is therein referred to in a manner which convincingly shows, that no sort of doubt was entertained that it might be properly provided for in the new law.

Enclosure 2.

Enclosure 3.

13. This and some other provisions of the measure did, however, appear to me of such a nature as to induce particular inquiry on my part, but I was assured that without doubt, a five years' contract was already permitted by the law of the Colony; and though since frequently recurring to the point, I have invariably received the same confident reply.

14. My personal and practical acquaintance with West Indian immigration had ceased in the year 1851, when I was transferred from the Lieutenant-Government of St. Lucia to that of the Cape of Good Hope. I had recently made a very hurried transit through England from Newfoundland to this Colony, and I knew only generally that of late years Her Majesty's Government had consented to alterations and modifications of the former laws which were considered highly favourable to employers of immigrant labour.

15. My first duty in connexion with the question after my assumption of the Government was to consider the despatch of your Lordship's immediate predecessor, No. 130,† of the 12th May 1857, and I certainly rose from the perusal of that Despatch, with its enclosures, and of the local Act to which it relates (20 Vict. c. 8) with a strong conviction of the extent in the direction of the planter's interests, to which those alterations and modifications had proceeded.

† *Vide* Papers presented Aug. 1857, p. 250.

A ten years' residence under contracts to labour, on alternative payments of money, appeared by that enactment to have been imposed upon the immigrant, instead of a residence for five years as required by the law, when I was last familiar with its operation.

16. With these impressions, it did not appear to me improbable, unacquainted as I was at the time with the details of legislation on the subject in Trinidad and British Guiana since the date of the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch, that contracts of five years' duration might have been sanctioned even in those Colonies, as I was indeed assured, upon what I believe to be well informed authority, was the case; and this probability did not seem diminished, when I bore in mind that the Draft Act with that Despatch contained a clause (No. 28), under which, in the event of the employer's death, or the demise or alienation of the plantation, cases in this country of frequent occurrence, the immigrant is debarred from any semblance of free selection, or from the advantage of the recommendation and advice of the Government, as to the person whom he would be bound to serve for a period, it might be of little less than three years' duration.

17. I certainly looked upon this clause as far more to the disadvantage of the immigrant, and more opposed to the principle of personal freedom of choice on his part, than one which I should prolong from three to five years, a contract made with a first employer, of whose eligibility to receive immigrants, and willingness to deal fairly with them, the Government had been previously able to assure itself; and thus beneficially direct the choice of the immigrant in entering upon such an engagement. The principle in question is not, in fact, infringed in the case of an immigrant, who like the coolie, having received full advice and information as to the consequences of the step he is about to take, leaves India under an agreement to accept service with such employer as the Government may select for him upon arrival in the West Indies; and the question, whether that service should be for one, three, five, or even more years, is one which is, I apprehend,

I apprehend, either to be arbitrarily determined, or regulated by experience in connexion with the circumstances and social peculiarities of the country which is the future scene of the immigrant's industrial sojourn. Such circumstances and peculiarities it might have been truly urged, are in the case of Jamaica to be found in the extent of the island, the distance in some parts between the tracts of sugar cultivation, the numerous roadside villages, and the existence of native farmers upon the very smallest scale, into whose employment the coolie might, most disadvantageously to himself, be induced to enter, incidents all exercising an influence unfavourable to the acquisition on his part of contented feelings and steady habits, and to the accumulation of the means of independence preparatory to returning to his native country, which do not exist, or at any rate exist in a far less degree in other Colonies; but to which he would be liable in Jamaica, whenever by the termination of his first contract he should become entirely free to choose his own employer, without that advice which on his landing the Government bestows, as it were "*in loco parentis.*"

18. I may not perhaps have attached so much importance to the question of long contracts, as I should have done had I been more accurately informed of the views of Her Majesty's Government, because the impressions which I had formed, when it was my duty to consider matters of this nature some years ago, led me to the conclusion, that apart from special reasons, such as the reimbursement of the cost of introducing immigrants, &c., such contracts are practically far more in favour of the immigrant than of his employer; the former having his compensation and advantages secured to him by law, and the jealous supervision of the Government; while no compulsion, whether legal or of any other description, can exact the equivalent amount of labour from him if he is determined to withhold it. Upon this branch of the question I will only beg to add that it has never been the custom for the members of the Executive Committee to consult the Attorney General in reference to Bills, respecting which no doubt is entertained, or difficulty supposed to exist; that the subject had never been adverted to in the ordinary intercourse between that officer and myself, and that no special case had occurred which rendered it necessary to refer for his opinion upon the provisions respecting contracts, of either the old or the new law.

19. Previously, therefore, to the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, I had undoubtingly accepted the interpretation which my constitutional advisers had, I believe, as undoubtingly, placed upon the old laws, both in respect to contracts of five years' duration, and to an industrial residence prolonged from five to ten years' continuance; and in the belief of the correctness of that interpretation, I suffered it to be adopted in the new Act, 21 Vict. cap. 5.

20. It never happened to me to hear its correctness disputed; and it was maintained, and continues indeed to be maintained, both by the framers of those laws and by many others, that it cannot be successfully impeached. I may perhaps be permitted in this place to state generally, what I understand to be the argument by which the upholders of the legality of a five years' contract defend that view.

21. The Act 15 Vict. c. 38, requires an industrial residence of five years before the immigrant can leave the country: "Industrial residence" is declared to be the time during which the immigrant is under a written engagement to work with "some planter," according to the interpretation of that term as given in the Act. Although the Act, in conjunction with the 5th Vict. c. 43, s. 10 (the old master and servant's law), only legalises contracts of one year's duration, yet it is maintained that the assignment for "industrial service" being for five years, successive annual contracts may be made to secure that service to the planter to whom it is granted; and that this is in fact tantamount to a five years' contract.

22. Again, the 16th clause of the Act, 15 Vict. c. 39, passed on the same day with the Act, c. 38, refers to parties receiving the services of immigrants under agreements to labour for not less than three years, and upon that basis provides for the repayment by three annual instalments of two-thirds of the cost of the introduction of immigrants imported under the provisions of the Act. From the 21st clause of the Act it is clear also, that Indian and African immigrants were amongst those whose introduction was contemplated, since that clause, it will be seen, expressly alludes to contracts with (amongst others) immigrants introduced from Africa and the continent of Asia at the cost of individual planters "under contracts for service" for "the space of not less than three years;" and these cannot be the immigrants referred to in the 58th and 59th clauses of the 15 Vict. c. 38, as introduced under contracts made in the country from which

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such immigrants proceed, because immigrants from Africa and the territories of the East India Company are by the very language of the first of those clauses excepted from their operation. The expression, "not less than three years," is assumed to imply that engagements for "more than three years" were admissible, if the object of those clauses had required them; and the maximum limit was considered, as I have already explained, to be necessarily fixed by the five years' duration of the industrial residence.

23. I may here remark, that if the local Government and those members of the Legislature who are interested in immigration had not assumed that the pre-existing laws provided for contracts with Indian immigrants of longer duration than one year, when they took up the question of coolie immigration during the administration of Lieutenant Governor Bell in the Session of 1856, and passed the Act 20 Vict. c. 8, it seems impossible to account for that opportunity not having been taken to extend the duration of the contracts to three years at least, as sanctioned by the Duke of Newcastle's Draft Act, then specially before them; and I may add, that it is improbable that the Board of Immigration Correspondence would have made the application for coolie labourers, which I communicated to Her Majesty's Government by my Despatch, No. 21,* of the 25th September last, if they had believed that the provisions of the Act of 15 Vict. c. 39, under which, first, employers are obliged to reimburse two-thirds of the cost of importation in return for receiving the services of the immigrants for three years were to be regarded as inoperative.

* Page 199.

24. With respect to the withholding the right of the immigrant to leave the colony until he had completed an industrial residence of ten years, it is contended that the Act 20 Vict. c. 8, simply prolonged to ten years, the period fixed in former Acts at five years, leaving the "manner" in which the certificate of such residence should be acquired the same as prescribed by the Act 15 Vict. c. 38, in the case of a residence of five years; but those who took this view of its provisions, and incorporated them in the disallowed Act, appear to have attached a narrower meaning to the word "manner" than can be properly assigned to it, and to have been unconscious of the difference between the effects of the law as it stood respectively before and after the repeal of the 15 Vict. c. 38.

25. With regard to the objection made to the disallowed law on account of the necessity it imposed on the Indian immigrant to be under one or more contracts of service of not less than a year each, during the last five years of his residence, I beg to observe, that this condition is sanctioned by the revived law, 20 Vict. c. 8, and that that Act, the provisions of which in this regard were, as I have already shown, suggested by your Lordship's immediate predecessor, will henceforth regulate this point, unless it should be disallowed by Her Majesty.

26. With respect to that clause of the disallowed Act which obliges the reindenture of immigrants among employers, at whose charge they shall have been originally introduced, it may be remarked, that as the term "employer" includes those at whose charge not Indian only, but Indian, African, and Asiatic immigrants are introduced, viz., in effect all those who may have applied to the Government for immigrants of either of these three descriptions, and have obtained the services of any of them, that term would probably be found, in practice, little less restrictive than that of "some planter" which is employed in the revived Act 15 Vict. c. 38.

27. I will not detain your Lordship by any prolonged discussion of the scope and bearing of the body of law regulating immigration which was in force previously to the passing of the disallowed Act, but will request your consideration of the enclosed memorandum upon the subject which has been furnished by the Attorney General, and which appears to justify the opinion that immigrants might, under the law, be assigned to the service of the same individual for five years, although that service could only be secured by successive annual contracts.

Enclosure 4.

28. With reference to those passages of my Despatch, No. 14,† of the 18th February last, which your Lordship has quoted, as indicating that I had myself "wholly overlooked," and had suffered to be "overlooked by others," the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch, of 16th January, 1854, I would merely beg further to state, that believing as I did, that the disallowed Act of last Session, while adopting the principles, and consolidating the provisions of previous laws, also embraced many points not included in those laws, but which were sanctioned in the laws of British Guiana and Trinidad; it was to the latter, only, I considered

† Page 204.

sidered it necessary specially to refer as constituting, together with the financial bearing of the measure, which I more fully explained in my Despatch, the new legislation which the Bill contained; and it will be seen that in Enclosure No 1, several of the conditions under which it was proposed that "the immigrants should be indentured to their employers," were represented to me as being adopted from the Demerara laws. Such, more especially, are the conditions prescribed by the 7th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 29th, 30th, and 57th clauses of the proposed Bill, as stated in the document referred to.

I should, however, have expressed myself more in accordance with the fact, as I had myself received it, if I had used the words "of this and," and before the words "of other colonies," "immigration colonies."

29. Your Lordship will now, I trust, permit me to refer to the question of immigration generally, as affected by the disallowance of the Act of last Session, and the practical bearing of its present position in reference to the agricultural interests of the colony.

By my Despatch of the 28th September last, No. 21,* I conveyed the request of the Commissioners of Immigration Correspondence, that the remainder of the guaranteed loan (about fifty-six thousand pounds) might be applied as soon as possible to purposes of coolie immigration. By the reply of your Lordship's predecessor, No. 58† of the 15th January last, with its enclosed report from the Emigration Commissioners, I learned that the objection to taking immediate steps for complying with that request, consisted in the necessity which was felt of referring back to the colony, in consequence of the desire which had been expressed to appoint a special agent in India for the purpose of rejecting unsuitable emigrants, and the advanced period of the last emigration season, which would thus have arrived, before that reference could be replied to.

* Page 199.

† Page 277.

In my Despatch, No. 13,‡ of the 8th February, I reported that the Legislature had left the question of the appointment of such an agent entirely in the hands of Her Majesty's Government; and I concluded that Despatch by earnestly requesting that no further delay might be "permitted to occur in initiating arrangements for a future supply of coolie labourers to the colony."

‡ Page 202.

31. The laws which were in force when Mr. Labouchere addressed to me his Despatch No. 58, and which were not then considered to preclude the colony from participating in coolie immigration, are again in operation; and they present, I believe, in no respect, terms less favourable to the immigrants, than those which are offered by British Guiana and Trinidad; but, on the contrary, these terms are, I apprehend, in some respects, even more liberal.

32. The difficulties, therefore, on this score, in procuring immigrants, which, as your Lordship justly observed, would probably operate against the Colony under the disallowed Act, not only no longer exist, but have been converted into advantages; and the present employers of labour in this Colony will, I fear, find it difficult to understand that they are not treated with some injustice, as compared with their fellow colonists elsewhere, if with the financial means in hand, with laws regulating the introduction of labourers already sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, and with a special application from the proper authorities in the Colony laid before Her Majesty's Government, so far back as the month of October last, any effort to meet their desires is still to be indefinitely deferred, until the result of another appeal to the Legislature, at the close of the present year, shall have been ascertained.

33. Your Lordship will, I trust, avert a consequence so much on every account to be deplored, by directing that, if all chance of obtaining coolie immigrants in the present year should unfortunately be already pretermitted, a proportionably larger share of liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, or of labourers from any other source which may hereafter develope itself, shall, until the balance between this and the other Colonies be adjusted, be forwarded to our shores. I am not insensible to the possibility that objections to a compliance with this appeal, however reasonable and natural it may be admitted to be, are to be found in the confusion which appears to exist between the Acts of the 15th Vict. c. 38 and 39. The latter Act, as I have had occasion to point out in the previous part of this Despatch, contemplates engagements of service for three years with the same employer; and it is, no doubt, of importance, for the sake of the reimbursement to the revenue of part of the cost of introduction, to which object that provision of the Act was specially directed, that such engagements should, if possible, be made. It must be assumed, however, that the Act 15 Vict. c. 38, in conjunction with the 10th section of the 5th Vict. c. 43, legalises

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legalises contracts only whose duration does not exceed one year. But I perceive that one of the supplementary draft clauses transmitted with Mr. Secretary Labouchere's Despatch, No. 58 of the 15th January last, makes it lawful to assign immigrants, on their arrival, to "planters who shall be ready to employ them;" and this assignment is contemplated by other clauses of the Draft Act to be for a period of three years.

34. The principle, therefore, of assignment for three years by recommendation instead of by perfectly free choice, is thus sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, and is indeed adopted in the interest of the immigrant himself, who leaves India under an engagement with the Government that he will submit to it on his arrival in the West Indies. To the immigrant it can, I conceive, under these circumstances, be a matter of no concern whether his three years' service is legalised and its conditions guarded under one continuous or under three successive instruments; and it seems to me that if the Immigration Agent merely renewed, at the end of the first and second years respectively, that assignment of the immigrant which he made on his arrival, a proceeding which the Attorney General, by his Memorandum of 25 May, seems to consider feasible under the law as it now stands, and which would be no greater invasion of the coolie's strictly natural rights, than is the first assignment itself, the object of securing a three years' service would be accomplished in subordination to the requirements of law.

35. This suggestion, I need not remark, can have reference only to the case of the few immigrants who might be introduced before the renewed law shall be amended; and if the Legislature should think fit so to amend those laws as to clearly legalise three years' contracts, *ex post facto* application to these immigrants of such amended laws, if containing only provisions to which they were already prepared to submit, would scarcely, I think, be open to objections founded in reason or equity, although perhaps liable to technical exception.

36. I now beg leave to report to your Lordship that having anxiously considered, with the members of the Executive Committee, the expediency of convening the Legislature as soon after the receipt of Her Majesty's disallowance of the Act 21 Vict. c. 5 as would be practicable, in order to submit to it your Lordship's Despatch, I have decided that, as that object could not well be accomplished before the month of July, and certainly not without putting both the public and individual members to heavy pecuniary charges and much inconvenience, while, if absolutely necessary, the ordinary period of the meeting of the Legislature, in November next, might be a little anticipated. The latter will, under all circumstances, be the preferable course.

37. In coming to this decision, I do not disguise from myself that in the interval the spirits and energies of the planters will be depressed by the still deferred hope of obtaining immigrant labour, while the efforts of their opponents will be directed to the organisation of an opposition to this object in the Legislature. The relations between the native labourers and their employers will also, I fear, be rendered in some quarters still more unsettled by the machinations of those who are working for that purpose, and who, most falsely I am aware, yet not the less boldly, take credit to themselves for having obtained the disallowance of the recent Immigration Act. But, on the other hand, the public mind is at present excited both in regard to this matter and to the recent instructions with respect to payments by the Receiver General, which, it is alleged, override some of the laws of the Colony; and it is therefore doubtful whether the discussions in the Legislature would be, either in tone or language, as temperate as I trust they may be, after the present agitation shall have subsided.

Enclosure 5.

38. With reference to the 14th paragraph of your Lordship's Despatch, I have the honour to enclose the copy of a letter from the Agent General of Immigration, reporting the precise period for which the captured Africans landed from the "Arab" were indentured; and in conformity to the instructions conveyed by the concluding paragraph of that Despatch, I also transmit the statement respecting the rates of wages and the advantages generally which Jamaica offers to immigrants of all classes with which your Lordship is desirous that the emigration agents in India should be furnished.

Enclosure 6.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 15.

CORRESPONDING CLAUSES OF ACTS.	Corresponding Clauses of Demerara Ordinance No. 7 of 1854. The October Draft.	PROPOSED CONTENTS OF IMMIGRATION BILL.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 6 -	1	1. Interpretation clause. Immigration agent; Indian immigrant; Asiatic immigrant; indenture; indentured immigrant; employer; estate; month; lessee; tenant; &c.
15 Vict. c. 38, ss. 2, 5, 35.	2	2. Appointment of Agent General of Immigration and sub-agents.
		3. Appointment of agents at ports of emigration.
		4. Such agents to transmit ages, &c. of immigrants shipped to Agent General.
		5. Notices to be published of places from which immigration permitted by Governor.
		6. Proportionate number of both sexes to be introduced.
	8	7. Husbands and wives and children under 15 not to be separated.
		8. Residence of children under 12 equivalent to industrial residence; after 12 they may be indentured; Agent General to determine age.
16 Vict. c. 30, s. 1	19	9. Notices to preprietors desirous of accepting services of immigrants to make known their willingness to accept allotments on arrival, and the description of buildings in which they will be located to be published.
		10. Conditions on which immigrants may be allotted to lessees or tenants of estates.
		11. Governor to fix average cost of importation of the several classes of immigrants; power to remit excess, if fixed too high. Passage-money to be paid only for immigrants landed alive.
15 Vict. c. 38, ss. 58. 62, 63. 16 Vict. c. 30, s. 7. 17 Vict. c. 36.	4	12. Contracts with immigrants from Madeira, the Azores, &c.; Europe, the West Indies, North America, &c.; entered into off the island on approval of Immigration Agent, valid for three years, if signed and attested as herein mentioned.
	5	13. If not satisfactory to Immigration Agent, or not so signed or attested, to be reported to Governor, who may direct him to approve.
	7	14. Immigration Agent to feed and lodge immigrants until indentured.
	25	15. Governor may make regulations respecting the food, clothing, lodging, residences, and medical care of immigrants; and other matters necessary for carrying Act into effect, to be published in the "Gazette."
	26	16. During absence from illness to receive, instead of wages, such allowances as the state of their health shall require, and as may be prescribed by Governor's regulations.
		17. Agent General to keep registers of separate classes of immigrants, and furnish particulars to sub-agents. District.
	8	18. Immigrants other than Africans, Asiatics, or Indians, who shall have consented to enter into contracts of service in the island for three years, may be indentured by the Immigration Agent to any employer the Governor may think fit.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 26 -	15	19. Immigrants other than Africans or Asiatics, who shall not be entitled to return passages, entitled to certificate of industrial service after residence of three years. If absent for more than three months during that period, to give further service for the period of absence before entitled to certificate.
	16	20. African, Asiatic, and Indian immigrants may be assigned by the Agent General for five years.
		21. No Asiatic, Indian, or African immigrant who shall be absent from service for more than five months in the five years entitled to certificate until he shall have further served under indenture for the period of absence.
See 20 Vict. c. 8, Preamble and s. 1.		22. Indian immigrants who have acquired certificates of industrial residence entitled, at the expiration of ten years, to back passage or a grant of land, provided they enter into indentures for a further period of five years, or pay the immigration agent 2*l.* 10*s.* for each year they shall not be under indenture.

(*continued*)

CORRESPONDING CLAUSES OF ACTS.	Corresponding Clauses of Demerara Ordinance No. 7 of 1854. The October Draft.	PROPOSED CONTENTS OF IMMIGRATION BILL.
20 Vict. c. 8 - -	- -	23. African or Asiatic immigrants re-indenturing themselves for a further period of five years, or paying 2*l.* 10*s.* for each year they shall not be re-indentured, entitled to a grant of land.
		24. Re-indentures to be made among employers only at whose charge the immigrants were originally introduced, subject to this provision: re-indentured immigrants may select employers. No further payment to be made for services of re-indentured immigrants.
		25. Indian, African, and Asiatic immigrants further indentured, who absent themselves for more than a month in any one year, to give further service for the period of absence.
		26. Upon death of employer, or alienation or demise of estate, the services of the immigrant to go with estate. In case of dispute between immigrant and employer, the person in possession to be deemed entitled. The services of any indentured immigrant may, with his assent, be transferred to any other estate of the same employer, a memorandum of transfer being endorsed on indenture by the Immigration Agent.
	12	27. Immigration Agent may cancel indenture of moneys payable by employer in respect of immigrant as unpaid.
		28. Immigration Agent may, at the request of employer and immigrant, cancel any indenture for the purpose of re-indenturing with Governor's sanction.
	14	29. Immigrants whose indentures are cancelled may be re-indentured for residue of period.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 17 -	26	30. Immigrants to work on estates on which indentured nine hours a day, except Sundays.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 14 -	- -	31. Employer to make annual returns of births and deaths to Agent General, particulars whereof are to be entered in register. Annual returns to be made by Agent General to the Governor, and copies laid before Legislative Council and Assembly.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 26 - 20 Vict. c. 8.	- -	32. Subject as above, Asiatic immigrants who have served five years, and Indians who have served ten years, or paid money equivalent, may demand certificates of industrial residence.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 63 - 16 Vict. c. 30, s. 8.	- -	33. Immigrants entitled to certificates of industrial residence naturalised.
	20	34. Immigrants entitled to certificates of industrial service may demand passports.
	23	35. Indian immigrants, on production of passport, entitled ten years after arrival to a back passage, if claimed 18 months before the expiration of the 10 years, unless provided with a grant of land.*
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 27 -	24	36. Governor may authorise grant of certificate of exemption from industrial residence to immigrants incapable of labour, and may send back any such Indian immigrant.
		37. Immigrants entitled to return passages to be paid allowances for detention.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 36 -	- -	38. Immigration Agent may enter upon estates to inspect condition of immigrants. Employers to make annual returns.
15 Vict. c. 33, s. 36 -	11	39. Power of immigration agent to adjudicate upon disputes between immigrants or between immigrants and their employers, and to cancel indenture with Governor's sanction, in addition to other penalties.
		40. Immigrants found off the estate during working hours may be apprehended without warrant.
		41. Employer to report desertion of immigrant to nearest police station.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 29 -	30	42. To be apprehended and taken back to the estate, if found during the ordinary hours of work at a distance of more than five miles from estate.
		43. Mile-money to be paid to persons apprehending immigrants.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 14, 37	10	44. Penalties on employers omitting to make return, or obstructing Immigration Agent in entering upon estate or inquiring into state of immigrants.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 25 -	27	45. Immigrants absenting themselves from work to forfeit wages and allowances, and may be imprisoned with hard labour not exceeding

* *See* Governor Grey's Despatch, No. 52, 15 November 1854, Demerara.

CORRESPONDING CLAUSES OF ACTS.	Corresponding Clauses of Demerara Ordinance No. 7 of 1854. The October Draft.	PROPOSED CONTENTS OF IMMIGRATION BILL.
		46. Immigrants damaging property of employer by negligence may be imprisoned on conviction.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 31 -	31	47. Penalties on immigrants pretending to have completed industrial service or using, giving, or lending certificate or passport fraudulently, or counterfeiting or altering certificate or passport.
15 Vict. c. 38, ss. 33, 34	32	48. Penalties on harbouring or employing indentured immigrants. Complaint to be made within 12 months after offence.
		49. Penalty on masters of vessels and others aiding or abetting their departure without passport.
		50. Offences and breaches of engagement in indenture, for which no other punishment is provided, punishable by fine not exceeding 5 *l.*, and in default of payment, imprisonment not exceeding one month.
		51. Documents, copies, and extracts from register signed by Immigration Agent *primâ facie* evidence of original, and of the truth of its contents.
		52. Appointments, &c., exempted from stamp duty.
		53. Penalties and forfeitures, how recoverable. Goods distrained on not repleviable except under order of a judge of the Supreme Court, but not to be sold before the lapse of 14 days. Penalty on removing goods distrained on.
		54. Convicting justices may reward persons active in the apprehension of immigrants; such rewards to be payable at island treasury.
		55. On complaints between employers and immigrants, justices may award the whole or a proportion of wages, or authorise the employer to retain same.
		56. Or may abate a portion of wages as damages for absence or neglect.
	37	57. No complaint to be entertained unless preferred within 30 days, nor abatement from amount due to either party by reason of misconduct beyond that period.
	45	58. Officers of courts or justices to make returns to Agent General of convicted immigrants.
		59. Employers of immigrants introduced by means of balance of 100,000 *l.* loan to enter into separate contract to pay two-thirds of average cost of importation by instalments.
		60. Employers of immigrants introduced by means of funds raised under this Act to enter into separate contract to pay the whole average of importance, &c., by instalments.
		61. On re-indenture of immigrants, contracts to repay cost of importation to be cancelled, and fresh contracts for the unpaid instalments to be entered into by the employer re-indenturing.
		62. In case of husband and wife and children included in one indenture of service, one contract for payment of cost of introduction, or two-thirds, sufficient.
		63. If cost of introduction discharged by the importer, Immigration Agent to dispense with contract for payment of expenses of introduction, and indorse payment on contract of service and transfer.
		64. Employers to pay Immigration Agent advances to immigrant before embarkation, and deduct same by weekly instalments from wages.
		65. Applicants for immigrants refusing to execute indentures for those allotted to them, to forfeit a sum equal to what they would have been required to enter into contract to repay if they had executed indenture. Governor may remit or mitigate forfeiture. Attorneys to be deemed authorised agents of the principals for the purposes of this Act, in the absence of an express provision to the contrary in power, but without prejudice to any right of action by principal against agent.
		66. Moneys payable in respect of indentured immigrants, or on refusal to execute indenture, to be a first charge on estate, and recoverable by distress and sale, without previous information or summons.
		67. All moneys received from employers of immigrants introduced by means of the balance of 100,000 *l.* fund, to be carried to the 100,000 *l.* immigration loan new sinking fund, account to be opened in Receiver General's books, and may be remitted to England, to be invested under 15 Vict. c. 39.

CORRESPONDING CLAUSES OF ACTS.	Corresponding Clauses of Demerara Ordinance No. 7 of 1854. The October Draft.	PROPOSED CONTENTS OF IMMIGRATION BILL.
		68. Moneys received from employers of immigrants introduced with moneys raised under this Act to be paid one week after receipts by Immigration Agent to the Receiver General, and carried to an account, "The New Immigration Fund."
		69. Governor, with advice of the Executive Committee, may borrow further moneys for defraying, in the first instance, the expense of introducing immigrants under this Act, with power to appoint agents in Great Britain.
		70. How moneys borrowed here and in Great Britain are to be repayable. Debentures to be redeemable at furthest six years after date.
		71. Conditions on which lost, destroyed, or defaced debentures may be renewed.
		72. All moneys to be raised as aforesaid, and interest thereon, to be a charge on the New Immigration Fund; and if same prove inefficient, the deficiency to be a charge on the general revenue.
		73. The credit of the island pledged for repayment of loan and interest. The revenue under this Act declared in the first place applicable.
		74. Provision for payment of interest on moneys borrowed.
		75. Establishment of sinking fund to redeem principal moneys borrowed.
		76. Fund to be raised to meet expenses of return passage or colonisation of Indian immigrants.
		77. Receiver General to appropriate the amount directed to be set apart for such fund, and to invest and accumulate the same as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall direct, until wanted.
15 Vict. c. 38, s. 5 -	- -	78. Receiver General, out of the moneys at credit of the fund, to pay orders of Governor, with advice of Executive Committee, for purchase of lands for colonisation of Indians, money commutations, or back passages.
		79. The Receiver General to carry to credit of the Colonisation and Back-passage Fund 5,000*l.* authorised by 20 Vict. c. 8.
		80. The Governor may contract for the purchase of land for purposes of colonisation.
		81. Grants of six acres of land to be made to immigrants who shall have entitled themselves thereto, when entitled to certificates of industrial residence.
		82. Governor may also make grants of land as rewards for meritorious conduct.
		83. Diagrams to be annexed to grants.
		84. Cost of survey not to exceed 20*s.* for 10 acres.
		85. Lands to be discharged from arrears of quit-rents and land-tax, and grants to be made free of expense to immigrants.
		86. Persons receiving grants to be exempted from taxes for three years.
		87. Immigrants may be permitted during the period of industrial service to occupy lands to be purchased.
		88. How occupation may be determined, and penalty on retaking possession.
		89. Manner of communicating with agents appointed under 15 Vict. c. 39.
		90. The form in Schedule declared valid.
		91. Governor may appropriate moneys to be raised under 15 Vict. c. 39, for payment of return passages of Indian immigrants now entitled thereto, or in commutation thereof, either wholly or partly in money or land.
		92. Immigrants to be introduced under this Act may receive commutation for return passage partly in money or partly in land.
		93. Repeal of Act.
		94. Commencement of Act, which may be entitled as "The New Immigration Act, 1857."

Enclosure 2, in No. 15.

Encl. 2, in No. 15.

IMMIGRATION.

BESIDES consolidating and amending the present immigration laws and expending the remainder of the 100,000*l.* loan in importing coolies from India, something might, I think, on reconsideration, be done at once to render immigration continuous. Provisions may, I think, be introduced into the amended Act to modify the present system, so as to make it not only continuous, but unobjectionable and self-supporting, so to speak. These provisions need not come into operation until the 100,000*l.* shall be exhausted. Under these new provisions parties desiring immigrants might be required to apply from time to time to the Agent General for the number and description of immigrants they might require from any quarter of the globe, naming, at the same time, the estates on which they are to be employed. All applications might be required to be sent by the Agent General to the Executive Committee, and the Executive Committee might be required to take on themselves the responsibility of importing the people applied for, or doing their best to do so, and so soon as the immigrants so ordered shall arrive, the Agent General might be required to ascertain the total cost of the same, including future interest, and divide it by the number of years the immigrants had to serve, and supposing that to be five, the estates on which such immigrants should be so located might, immediately on the execution of the necessary papers, become liable to be taxed one-fifth of the gross cost of introduction annually, which tax might be paid half-yearly, one-half on the 10th March, and the other on the 10th September, by the estate to the Agent General who should pay it to the Receiver General; and in failure of the payment of such tax the Agent General might employ any person, under his hand and seal, to levy for the said tax days after becoming due.

In the meantime the Executive Committee might be empowered to raise money through the British Government, if possible, or otherwise if necessary, to meet the cost of importing immigrants under the new provisions of the Act. The money so borrowed would, of course, be repaid every five years by the tax on estates, as already stated.

In order to reconcile employers to bear the whole cost of the introduction of immigrants in the manner set forth, it might be enacted that any estate or party at whose cost immigrants shall be imported shall have the preference of their services, or of the services of others, during the last five years of their industrial service.

The system I propose will answer on a large or a small scale, and will be continuous so long as the staples are worth cultivating and labour is wanted.

17 September 1857. (signed) *W. Hosack.*

Enclosure 3, in No. 15.

Encl. 3, in No. 15.

IMMIGRATION.

IF it be necessary at the very beginning to provide a revenue to pay for the return passages of Indian immigrants after the expiration of their industrial residence, or to purchase lands whereon to settle or colonise such of them as may desire to remain in the colony, I think it might be done easily and on a fair and continuous principle.

Since immigrants contribute to the import duties the moment they arrive, and that too in a much greater ratio than our natives of their own class do, I think it would be quite reasonable to average such contribution at the rate of 20*s.* per head per annum, and to appropriate that sum annually on account of each immigrant in the colony during the first ten years of his residence, on the 10th October in each year, for the purpose of creating a fund for the payment of return passages or colonising such immigrants on lands after the expiration of ten years' industrial residence. It might be worked thus: the Agent General of Immigration might be required to ascertain the number of immigrants introduced under the contemplated Act alive in the colony on the 10th day of October in each year, and to transmit returns thereof to the Receiver General and Governor, such returns to show the date of arrival of each shipment during the twelve months preceding the 10th October.

The Receiver General might be required, under a penalty of , to appropriate the sum of 20*s.* per head for the number of immigrants set forth in such returns as being alive on the 10th October last past, such appropriation to be made out of any unappropriated moneys in his hands invested by him at interest in the island banks or other securities to the best advantage, under the approval of the Governor, for the purpose of forming a fund, which might be called the "Immigrants' Colonisation and Return Passage Fund," and which should be kept sacred.

If this method of meeting the cost of colonisation or back passages, as the case may be, is approved of, the whole immigration scheme will be compassed without, in fact, taxing any one but the employer. It therefore seems to me the island cannot be a loser while the chances of its benefiting are very great, intending, as I do, the whole scheme to be capable of being worked on a large or small scale, and to be at once self-supporting, self-adjusting, continuous, and costless, as far as the public is concerned.

21 September 1857. (signed) *W. Hosack.*

JAMAICA.

Enclosure 4, in No. 15.

Encl. 4, in No. 15.

MEMORANDUM on Jamaica Legislation respecting Immigration and the Labour of Immigrants prior to the Session of 21 Victoria.

THE "deficiency" laws went with slavery.

5 Will. 4, c. 42.
7 Will. 4, c. 39.
1 Vict. c. 10.
3 Vict. c. 63.

The early immigration Acts, after emancipation, contemplated the introduction of European immigrants only.

In 1840 the importation of immigrants from any place, not specially excepted by the Governor, was made lawful, the labourer having free choice of his employer, or rather, applicant for his labour. The contract was not to endure for more than three years. In case of breach of the contract, the immigrant became a public debtor to a proportionate extent of the amount of his passage money hither.

4 Vict. c. 23.

In December of the same year, labour contracts of immigrants were declared to be valid for only one year.

5 Vict. c. 43, s. 10.

In January 1842, contracts of service "in husbandry" (among others) generally, were declared effectual for a year only.

6 Vict. c. 51.

In December 1842, provision was made for the importation of African and Asiatic labour especially (the labour contract being only for a year), and a free passage home being given to certain kroomen who had been already brought hither at the public expense.

7 Vict. c. 29.

In January 1844, it was enacted that five years' continuous residence should entitle African immigrants to a free return passage, available (on six months' notice) for two years after the lapse of the term of residence.

8 Vict. c. 15.
9 Vict. c. 15, 17.
10 Vict. c. 13.
11 Vict. c. 29.

In January 1845, Asiatic labourers were placed on the same terms as to the return passage as Africans; and in December of that year the existing provisions for a free passage were renewed till 31 December 1846. The Act last cited in the margin was continued in force until 31 March 1847; and in December 1847, it was repealed, the right of free return passage (under the Acts of 6th, 7th, and 8th years of the Queen,) being still recognised (as it has continuously been by 17 Vict. c. 6, and 18 Vict. c. 21, still in force).

13 Vict. c. 30.

In February 1850, provision was made for the custody and care of captured Africans and emancipadoes. Africans under 12 years of age might be indentured for five years, but only under 4 Vict. c. 30, sec. 1.

Of the Acts above cited in the margin, only the 5 Vict. c. 43 remains in force. The Acts subsequently mentioned were law at the commencement of the Session of 21 Vict., and failing 21 Vict. c. 5, will be such still.

15 Vict. c. 38, s. 62.

The 5 Vict. c. 43, s. 10, is not operative on labour contracts made out of this island with natives or residents of the Azores, the United States, and the British Provinces of America, or any other part of Europe, whether introduced at the public or private expense; and with such persons, contracts made abroad for a service of three years will be legal.

15 Vict. c. 38, s. 58.

Another exceptional case is that of the importers, at their own expense, of labour from any place other than Africa or the territories of the East India Company. Contracts when entered into in accordance with the section noted in margin may lawfully extend over a period of three years.

15 Vict. c. 38, ss. 53, 56.

A third exception from the operation of 5 Vict. c. 43, s. 10, occurs in the case of Chinese, who, whether imported at the public expense or at that of private persons, may enter into lawful contract for five years' service, determinable nevertheless after one year's residence here, on a month's notice by the immigrant.

15 Vict. c. 38, s. 56.
18 Vict. c. 52.
16 Vict. c. 30, s. 4.

Captured Africans, above 17 years of age, may also be assigned to serve for three years from their arrival here.

"Industrial residence" is carefully to be distinguished from a contract for labour.

The former is made with the Government, and is the consideration for the voyage of the immigrant, that is, the passage out and home. A substitution at provision exists of the immigrants paying, in lieu of "industrial" residence, 15*s.* per quarter to the public revenue.

The term "industrial residence," though defined strictly enough apparently in 15 Vict. c. 38, s. 6, must be further limited in extent of signification if the 15 Vict. c. 39, s. 16, is to have any meaning; and the only effective construction I can put on sections 6, 14, and 16, of chapter 38, and section of chapter 39, is such as would invest the Agent General with the authority of disavowing, as "industrial" service for a return passage, or exemption from the substituted tax, any service rendered to a person other than the one to whom (by assignment of the Government's bargain) that service had been "allotted." Still, there is no power in the Agent General absolutely to bind an immigrant, of the class under view, for more than one year's service to any one person.

The 15 Vict. c. 40, ss. 9 & 10, and 16 Vict. c. 18, provide for a money payment in lieu of the return passage.

The 15 Vict. c. 41, and 16 Vict. c. 29, constitute and provide for the continuance of the Board of Immigration correspondence.

The 16 Vict. cc. 20 and 25, are mere adjuncts to the Immigration Fund Act (15 Vict. c. 39), the former chapter making the debentures redeemable 20 years after the date of their issue, and the latter extends the export duty to all packages of sugar.

The 17 Vict. c. 36, defines the manner of attesting contracts for labour made out of this island.

The

JAMAICA.

The Act 20 Vict. c. 8, has relation only to immigrants who may arrive after 19 December 1856; and as it must be construed with the previous Acts in force, especially 5 Vict. c. 43, s. 10, it does not validate any one contract for the last five years of "industrial residence," but only gives the alternative of paying for years during which the immigrant has not "industrially" resided, in the restricted meaning given to that word by the Legislature.

(signed) *Alexander Heslop*,
Attorney General.

25 May 1858.

Enclosure 5, in No. 15.

Encl. 5, in No. 15.

(No. 115.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 25 May 1858.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the return specified in your letter, No. 518, of the 14th instant.

Sub-Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Ewart*, A. G. I.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary, &c., King's House.

Sub-Enclosure.

STATEMENT showing the Length of Time for which the Africans Captured by Her Majesty's Brig "Arab" were Indentured.

28 adults, from 17 years of age and above	Under contract of service for three years.
284 children; supposed ages from 8 to 16 years	Under indentures for five years.
312	

Immigration Office, 25 May 1858. (signed) *D. Ewart*, A. G. I.

Enclosure 6, in No. 15.

Encl. 6, in No. 15.

(No. 114.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 25 May 1858.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the statement specified in your letter, No. 520, of the 14th instant.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Ewart*, A. G. I.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary, &c., King's House.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

STATEMENT of Wages and other Advantages offered to Agricultural Labourers in the Island of *Jamaica*.

BEFORE entering upon any consideration of the wages and other advantages which will be offered to immigrants generally, it may be proper to state that the immigrants who are considered to be the most efficient are the Africans and the East Indians; but the characteristic features which distinguish these two classes are sufficiently marked to account for the preference which is invariably given by planters in this Colony for the services of African labourers.

Wages and allowances for day labour.

Able and industrious labourers may always expect to receive 1 *s.* 6 *d.* a day for nine hours of steady continuous labour. During the manufacture of sugar, higher wages will be paid, varying from 2 *s.* to 4 *s.* per day, according to the number of hours, or in proportion to the quantity of sugar made.

Rooms or houses, with sufficient land for a garden, and medicine and medical attendance, will be allowed to the immigrant for the period during which his contract is to endure. Young people are much in demand to perform the light work of cultivation, and they would readily be hired at 9 *d.* or 6 *d.* a day.

Description of work.

On sugar estates, the work which the immigrant will be required to perform will consist of planting, weeding, moulding, thrashing, cutting, and manufacturing the canes into sugar. On coffee plantations the work required is less laborious; such as planting, pruning, and weeding the coffee trees and gathering the berries, which are placed on barbacues or terraces to be dried.

Tradesmen.

The tradesmen most required on sugar estates are coopers, masons, carpenters, and blacksmiths; and if they are able and hardworking men, they would easily earn from 3 *s.* to 5 *s.* a day, according to their mechanical skill.

Job and task work.

All field and manufacturing work is done as much as possible by the job or task. The peculiarity which distinguishes job from task work is that the labourer agrees to perform some

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some specific work, which will occupy more than a day, and may extend beyond a week or a month. For example, if he undertake to clean a field of cane of eight acres, at 10 *s.* per acre, it is job-work, and he is at liberty to employ as many labourers as may be necessary to assist him in completing his engagement within the time specified. If he agree to dig in one day 100 cane holes for 2 *s.*, and to be paid at the same rate for any additional number of holes he may dig during the same day, this is task-work. In both these systems the reward will of course be proportioned to the industry of the labourers, and very high wages have been frequently earned by them. For instance, in the digging of cane holes, which, during slavery, was considered to be the most severely laborious of the labour required in West Indian cultivation, labourers have frequently completed in one day 200 holes, and others, less industrious or less able, have finished their task of 100 holes by mid-day. In the less arduous description of work, such as thrashing, weeding, moulding, and cutting canes by the chain or cord, a task and a half daily, worth from 2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*, have been easily performed by industrious labourers.

These profitable employments will be open to immigrants, with the advantages of house accommodation, garden, and medical attendance, secured to them free of all charge, under written contracts.

Security against deception.

The principal Act in force relating to immigrants is the 15 Vict. c. 38. Under its provisions an Agent General of Immigration and a staff of sub-agents of immigration are appointed to take charge of the immigrants, and allot them to employers whose applications for their services have been approved by the Governor, and who have provided such houses or rooms for the accommodation of the immigrants as the sub-agents before the arrival of the immigrants shall have inspected and certified to be situated in healthy localities, and suitable in all respects for the reception of the immigrants.

All immigrants are bound to enter into written contracts; but the East Indians and the Chinese are the only class of free immigrants who are bound to remain five years in Jamaica under certain conditions. With respect to the former, the conditions are, that they must work for some planter, under written engagements, of not less than 12 months at a time, and that while they are so engaged they will not be subject to the tax of 15 *s.* a quarter, which they would otherwise have to pay, under the provisions of the Immigration Act, for five years, or any portion of that time, after their arrival in this Colony.

With regard to the Chinese immigrant, the tax imposed upon him for not entering, like the East Indian, into a succession of written engagements until five years shall have expired, was repealed by the 18 Vict. c. 52.

With respect to captured Africans above the age of 17 years introduced into this island under the authority of Her Majesty, it is provided that the Agent General shall assign their services for a term of three years; and the 6 Vict. c. 21, provides for indenturing persons for a term not exceeding seven years, whatever may be their age, who may be brought into this island, and condemned or forfeited to Her Majesty under the statutes for the abolition of the slave trade.

With regard to all other immigrants, not natives of Africa and the territories of the East India Company, contracts may be made with them for any period not exceeding three years.

Rent of houses and provision grounds.

During his servitude the immigrant will have acquired sufficient experience of the value of cultivating ground provisions in the garden allowed him; and, should he desire to rent land for the purpose of cultivating on a larger scale, he will probably be able to do so from his employer at the rate of 12 *s.* a year for one acre.

Cultivation of the staple produce, either for himself or on shares with the proprietor.

There are other rewards of direct emolument which an industrious immigrant may expect to derive from cultivating sugar, ginger, arrowroot, or other exportable produce, on land rented from his employer under an agreement, by which the immigrant will be entitled to one-half or one-third, and the employer to the other half or two-thirds, to repay him for the rent of the land and for the expense of manufacturing the produce. In these undertakings the interest which the immigrant has in the successful cultivation of the soil naturally prompts him to labour diligently to ensure a good crop.

Purchase of land.

Should the immigrant desire, however, to form his own domestic establishment, he will experience no difficulty in purchasing any quantity of arable land he may require at the rate of from five to ten dollars per acre. He will probably find on the land materials sufficient for erecting his cottage, and, if not, it will not be difficult to procure them in the vicinity at a moderate cost. It will of course depend upon the efficacy of his industry whether his progress in this island shall be one of independent existence or not. The abundant resources of this Colony, for which so little comparatively has been obtained, will present to him many suitable branches of industry. He will find several facts collected and arranged by the Society of Arts in this island with regard to its industrial interests, and especially with regard to such commodities as may become of exportable value, which will be of service to him in the new position to which he has advanced from an immigrant to a small proprietor.

Public worship and religious instruction.

All immigrants who understand the English language will have an opportunity in every part of the island of receiving religious instruction in the churches and chapels of the Established Church, and in the chapels of the Wesleyan, Presbyterian, Baptist, Moravian, London Missionary, and Church Missionary Societies.

Administration of justice.

The jurisdiction for the enforcement of contracts is vested in the stipendiary and local magistrates, and there are higher tribunals presided over by judges, by whom criminal proceedings are judicially determined. Justice is administered in these courts with due severity against offenders, and with adequate protection to the injured or oppressed.

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Prices of provisions and clothing.

The provisions and clothing which are in general use among the labouring classes can be bought at the following prices:—

Yams, from 4*s.* to 5*s.* per cwt.
Cocoa, from 3*s.* to 4*s.* per cwt.
Plantains, 2*s.* to 3*s.* per 100 plantains.
Sweet potatoes, 3*s.* to 4*s.* per cwt.
Rice, from 18*s.* to 21*s.* per cwt.
Flour, 3*d.* per quart.
Cornmeal, two quarts for 4½*d.* to 3*d.* per quart.
Salt fish, 3*d.* per lb.
Salt pork, 9*d.* to 1*s.* per lb.
Fresh pork, 4½*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.
Fresh beef, 4½*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.
Herrings and alewives, four for 3*d.*
Sugar, 2 lbs. for 4½*d.* to 3*d.* per lb.
Bread, 3*d.* per lb.
An Osnaburgh shirt and trousers, such as form a negro man's working dress, 3*s.* 6*d.*
A working hat, from 9*d.* to 1*s.*
A working cap, from 6*d.* to 9*d.*
A good blue cloth jacket, from 16*s.* to 20*s.*
A suit, consisting of a coat, waistcoat, trousers, shirt, socks, hat, shoes, &c., such as a respectable man appears in on Sunday, costs altogether when new from 3*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*

To able and efficient immigrants, whose constitutions are adapted to a tropical climate, the prospects of doing well in Jamaica cannot be overrated.

In the social growth of the labouring population of this colony, from the abolition of slavery to the present period, land has been widely diffused among the many thousands of them who dwell together in thriving villages, in which are seen the durable effects of energy and industry. "I have inspected," says a clergyman, who published a few years ago an account of his travels in Jamaica, "the mountain settlements of the black people, and been struck with their great superiority to our Highland cottages. I have seen the negroes extracting, by mills of their own making, the saccharine juice from sugar canes of their own growing, and applying an energy to the process such as I have never witnessed in any of the operations of our indolent Highlanders."

If this clergyman had extended his inspection, he would have found a larger range of industrial economy spread over fields of coffee, arrowroot, and ginger plantations.

All these branches of industry and other profitable occupations will be within the reach of industrious immigrants who are desirous of settling in Jamaica after the termination of their engagements as immigrants. Several of the East Indians imported a few years ago have acquired wealth in Jamaica, and many of the Chinese immigrants, who have not been more than four years in this island, have already put by from 200 to 500 dollars.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Ewart*, A. G. I.

Immigration Office,
25 May 1858.

— No. 16. —

(No. 81.)

No. 16.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P.
26 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

King's House, 26 May 1858.
(Received, 15 June 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 10, 14 July 1858, p. 290)

MEMORIALS having been recently addressed to me, by the custodes and several of the magistrates and planters engaged in the conduct of estates in the parishes of Saint Thomas in the Vale and Saint Mary's, upon the subject of the deficiency of labour, and the means of remedying that deficiency, I do myself the honour to enclose a copy of these memorials (which are identical in their views) for your Lordship's consideration.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.

2. The memorialists, as your Lordship will perceive, have submitted two suggestions; one is, that the opportunity may be taken of the Earl of Elgin's mission to China, to procure the removal of the obstacles which it is understood have hitherto impeded a more free migration of labourers of both sexes, but especially of females, from that country,—a measure, the expediency of which, they believe his Lordship's personal knowledge of the wants of Jamaica and of the advantages which it offers to immigrants would lead him to concur in, whilst his official position would afford him great advantages in promoting its accomplishment. The other suggestion is, that, notwithstanding the resolution of the House of Assembly in its last session, against the introduction into the Colony of any of the sepoys concerned in the late rebellion in India, steps should nevertheless be taken to lead to an extensive immigration of them

3. With respect to the first of these proposals, I beg to state, that the opinion formed by many of the planters is in favour of the suitability of the Chinese as labourers, and that several applications for their services have been specially made

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made under the disallowed Immigration Act. The planters of Jamaica would therefore be glad to learn that the prospects of obtaining immigrants from China had become more satisfactory, and that there is a probability of the Colony's being permitted to participate in any migration of the kind which may be set on foot.

4. With regard to the introduction of sepoys, I concur with the memorialists in thinking that social evils are not to be apprehended as the result of such a measure; nor am I aware of any obstacle to the reception of these people in the Colony as labourers in the service of individual employers, provided they were subjected to no other restrictions than those applicable to ordinary Indian immigrants. If, therefore, any of the sepoys should be simply expatriated, the views of the memorialists might be met; but if the banishment should be accompanied with forced labour, and other special conditions which must be provided for by local legislation, in that case, I conceive that the scheme is not feasible, it being improbable that the House of Assembly would rescind their resolution of last Session on the subject, and consent to pass the necessary laws for the legal restraint of the exiles

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. 1, in No. 16.

Enclosure 1, in No. 16.

To His Excellency *Charles Henry Darling*, Esq., Captain General and Governor in Chief of Her Majesty's Island of *Jamaica*, &c. &c. &c.

Sir,

THE undersigned, deeply interested in the cultivation of the soil, feeling their energies paralysed, and their own, or properties under their charge, rendered comparatively valueless, and outlays already incurred frequently sacrificed or rendered nugatory, desire to address your Excellency on the means of increasing the supply of labour, the success of which, in their opinion, now almost involves the maintenance of this island as a sugar-producing colony, and particularly the parish of St. Thomas in the Vale.

It appears to your memorialists that the present crisis in China and British India afford opportunities which may, with your Excellency's aid, if promptly taken advantage of, conduce greatly to the general benefit of the island, and the mitigation of the difficulty under which they labour.

Without venturing to suggest what course of action may be open to your Excellency in the matter, they trust that, without offence, they may be allowed to direct your Excellency's attention to the fact that a former respected Governor of this island, Lord Elgin, is now settling a treaty with China, the terms of which it is generally thought in England he may greatly dictate, and that his Lordship thoroughly understands and appreciates their wants, and also the great advantages the labouring agricultural classes in China would derive from immigration to Jamaica. The peculiar laws of China in prohibiting the emigration of women have, however, greatly tended to reduce the advantages of immigration, and particularly to the colonies far distant from that empire. Without domestic or local ties, the habits of men naturally become vagrant and erratic, as is seen in the roaming character of the few Chinese now in Jamaica; besides which, the benefit resulting from mere male emigrants can only be temporary and evanescent, not alone from the absence of natural reproduction by the mixture of sexes, but from the return to their own country of such as may have been frugal enough to save money. They learn, however, from the usual sources of information from Great Britain, that China is now in a state of revolutionary agitation, and that her relations with England and other foreign countries will be completely reorganised, and her internal institutions necessarily liberalised, and they think it not improbable that Lord Elgin may, if his attention be called to it, be able in such condition of China to stipulate for mixed emigration to this island.

Your memorialists saw with regret that the House of Assembly ignored the application made by the Commissioners of Immigration for a proportion of the sepoys expected to be transported from India.

Your memorialists, far from participating in any timid alarm regarding the arrival of such persons in this country, are of opinion that, being a race proverbially facile, they will adapt themselves to their altered circumstances. They will of necessity feel conquered, subdued, and degraded from their caste, and that, removed from all the influences of Brahmins, their superstitious idolatries and hereditary veneration for native rank, without arms, relatively few in numbers, and scattered over a strange island, the undersigned are confident that such immigrants, living with their families in houses provided for them, would quickly settle down to those submissive and industrial pursuits which characterise many of their race already in this island, and in this parish probably (as many have done) embrace Christianity, and become of great advantage to the agricultural and financial interests of the country.

Your

Your memorialists therefore earnestly urge your Excellency to take such steps in this matter, and in that connected with China, as may be likely to lead to an extensive immigration from both countries.

We have, &c.

(signed) *Samuel Rennalls.*
Edward Kinkead, J. P.
J. M'Phail, J. P.
Geo. H. Lewis.
Peter F. Garrigues, J. P.
James Heighington, J. P.
Albert Delgado.
Geo. Geddes, J. P.
R. W. White.
Bryan E. Mackie, J. P.
William Carr, J. P.
J. M. Corking.
Fras. Gordon, J. P.
Wm. Oldaker.
Colin H. Hall, J. P.
M. Bravo, J. P., *St. Dorothy.*
W. J. E. Hall, J. P.
Edwd. J. Brandon.
C. B. Vidal, J. P.

Enclosure 2, in No. 16.

To His Excellency Governor *Darling*.

THE undersigned, deeply interested in the cultivation of the soil, feeling their energies paralysed, and their own, or properties under their charge, rendered comparatively valueless, and outlays already incurred frequently sacrificed or rendered nugatory, desire to address your Excellency on the means of increasing the supply of labour, the success of which, in their opinion, now almost involves the maintenance of this island as a sugar-producing colony, and particularly the parish of St. Mary.

It appears to your memorialists, that the present crisis in China and in British India afford opportunities which may, with your Excellency's aid, if promptly taken advantage of, conduce greatly to the general benefit of the island, and the mitigation of the difficulty under which they labour. Without venturing to suggest what course of action may be open to you in the matter, they trust that, without offence, they may be allowed to direct your attention to the fact that a former respected Governor of this island, Lord Elgin, is now settling a treaty with China, the terms of which it is pretty generally thought in England he may greatly dictate, and that his Lordship thoroughly understands and appreciates their wants, and also the great advantages the labouring agricultural classes in China would derive from Emigration to Jamaica. The peculiar laws of China, in prohibiting the emigration of women, have, however, greatly tended to reduce the advantages of immigration, and particularly to colonies far distant from that empire. Without domestic or local ties, the habits of men naturally become vagrant and erratic, as is seen in the roaming character of the few Chinese now in Jamaica; besides which, the benefit resulting from mere male immigrants can only be temporary and evanescent, not alone from the absence of the natural reproduction by the mixture of the sexes, but from the return to their own country of such as may have been frugal enough to save money. These drawbacks would greatly deter your memorialists from applying under the recently enacted Immigration Bill. They learn, however, from the usual sources of information from Great Britain, that China is now in a state of revolutionary agitation, and that it is expected her relations with England and other foreign countries will be completely reorganised, and her internal institutions necessarily liberalised, and they think it not improbable that Lord Elgin may, if his attention be called to it, be able, in such condition of China, to stipulate for mixed emigration to this island.

Your memorialists saw with surprise and regret that the House of Assembly, by a small majority, consisting principally of non-agricultural members, ignored the application made by the Commissioners of Immigration for a proportion of the sepoys expected to be transported from India. Your memorialists, deeply touched by the miseries inflicted there on their fellow-subjects, do not yet think that civilised England will execute vengeance to extermination on 150,000 men; but that after the capital punishment of all the ringleaders and more guilty mutineers, and of every monster implicated in the massacres, mercy will be extended to numbers of their followers who were led into the revolt by superstitious and mistaken ideas, or compelled to join their sterner associates.

Your memorialists, far from participating in any timid alarm regarding the arrival of such persons in this country, are of opinion that, being of a race proverbially facile, they will adapt themselves to their altered circumstances. They will necessarily feel conquered, subdued, and degraded from their caste, and that removal from all the influences of Brahmins, their superstitious idolatries and hereditary veneration for native rank, without arms, relatively few in numbers, and scattered over a strange island, without a single rallying point or a single motive for revolt, the undersigned are confident that such immigrants, living with their families in houses provided for them, would quickly settle down to those submissive and industrious habits which characterise many of their race already in the island, probably embrace Christianity, and become of great advantage to the agricultural and financial interests of the country.

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Your memorialists therefore earnestly urge your Excellency to take such steps in this matter, and in that connected with China, as may be likely to lead to an extended emigration from both countries.

(signed) *A. J. Lindo,* Custos.

Robert Clemetson.	*Henry Rigg.*
R. Braham.	*John Phillpotts.*
A. Currie.	*P. Morgan.*
John Marsh.	*Thos. Wood Summerbell.*
Thos. Evan.	*George Davis.*
W. Maitland.	*Richard Rigg.*
Jas. Pillmer.	*Th. Smith.*
James Russell.	*W. Litherland.*
G. J. Armstrong.	*G. B. Staines.*
R. Braham, Jun.	*Jno. B. Goffe.*
T. Michelin.	*John C. Thomson.*

— No. 17. —

No. 17.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P.
8 June 1858.

(No. 85.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley,* M.P.

King's House, 8 June 1858.
(Received, 3 July 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 27, 10 Sept. 1858, p. 291.)

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch, No. 23,* of the 3d ultimo, referring me, in reply to the request conveyed in my Despatch, No. 36,† of 10th March last, to the effect that a portion of the liberated Africans supposed to be destined for emigration from Sierra Leone might be sent to this Colony; to your predecessor's Despatch, No. 67,‡ of the 25th February last, and to that which your Lordship did me the honour to address to me, under date the 16th April last, No. 17.§

* Page 285.
† Page 208.
‡ Page 279.
§ Page 280.

2. In my Despatch, No. 53,‖ of the 26th March, and subsequently, more fully in that of the 22d ultimo, No. 79,¶ I have complied with your predecessor's directions in respect to the transmission of a statement of the wages and advantages enjoyed by labourers in this Colony; and in the last-mentioned of these Despatches, I have observed that by the disallowance of the Act of last Session, the laws which previously regulated immigration were revived.

‖ Page 213.
¶ Page 224.

3. I state it on the authority of the Attorney General, whom I have personally consulted, that these revived laws contain the requisite provisions for the introduction and employment, under contract for three years, of "captured Africans," and for one year of immigrants from Sierra Leone, "other than captured Africans;" while the sum of five thousand pounds (5,000*l.*) or thereabouts remaining unexpended in the hands of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners will, I apprehend, suffice to cover the expense attending the introduction of the portion of such immigrants which may be assigned to Jamaica, as estimated in Mr. Secretary Labouchere's Despatch, No. 67.

4. Having had the honour of submitting these facts, I have nothing more to urge on behalf of the Colony which would not be a reiteration of previous representations upon this subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

— No. 18. —

(No. 88.)

No. 18.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P.
10 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

King's House, 10 June 1858.
(Received, 3 July 1858.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's Despatch, No. 29,* of the 15th ultimo, and to observe that as the duties of the proposed protection of coolie immigrants could not practically commence until the expiration of the ten years after the arrival of any coolies who may hereafter be brought to the island; and as the views entertained on this subject both by Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India, or either of those Governments, may possibly during that period be changed, it is perhaps unnecessary to trouble your Lordship with any observations thereon.

* Page 286.

2. It is my duty, however, to point out that the Act of the island, 20 Vict., chap. 8, sanctions the commutation of a right to a back passage by a grant of land.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

— No. 19. —

(No. 94.)

No. 19.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P.
25 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

King's House, 25 June 1858.
(Received, 19 July 1858.)

My Lord,

(Answered, No. 27, 10 September 1858, p. 286)

ON my return yesterday from an official visit to the Island of Grand Cayman, I was put in possession of your Lordship's Despatch, No. 30,† of the 21st ultimo, with its enclosure.

† Page 287.

2. The employers of hired labour in this colony will learn with disappointment, that the Emigration Commissioners consider that they are unable to take steps for directing that free Africans should be embarked for Jamaica at Sierra Leone, because they do not regard themselves to be "authorised by the Colonial Government to promise Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. 5*l.* (five pounds) per adult for persons of that class landed in Jamaica, and are not enabled to give them a clear explanation of the classes of persons on whom and the conditions under which such a bounty would be receivable."

3. In so far as this disappointment may be charged against me as the Governor of the Colony, I would desire to observe that my previous Despatches on this subject having been addressed to the Secretary of State, during the period when the disallowed Immigration Act of last Session, 21 Vict. c. 5, was in force, under which Act the expenditure of the monies available for immigration purposes was wholly under the control of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, it certainly did not occur to me to be necessary to do more than request, as I did by my Despatch of the 10th March last, No. 36,‡ that a fair proportion of these people might be sent to the island. I attempted to make no stipulation as to the amount of passage money, the age or proportion of the sexes of the immigrants, leaving these points to be settled in whatever manner the Emigration Commissioners might consider necessary under the regulations of Her Majesty's Government, and find to be practicable; I desired nothing more, and I asked for nothing more for Jamaica, than the Colonies of British Guiana and Trinidad were I believed about to receive.

‡ Page 208.

4. The Emigration Commissioners were aware, that the fund at home immediately applicable to purposes of immigration amounted to between 5,000*l.* and 6,000*l.* (five and six thousand pounds), and that the proper authorities in the Colony had intimated their wish so far back as the month of September last, that the second moiety, 50,000*l.* (fifty thousand pounds), of the guaranteed loan should, if necessary, be raised and applied to immigration purposes.

5. I replied by the return mail to Mr. Secretary Labouchere's Despatch, No. 67,§ of the 25th February last, directing that a statement of the advantages

§ Page 279.

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enjoyed by labourers in this Colony should be forwarded, and if there had been any objection on the part of the Local Government to the terms stated in the enclosure to that Despatch to be those upon which the African immigrants could be obtained, I should of course, especially under the circumstance that I had already applied for them, have submitted those objections for consideration.

6. I did not, in fact, conceive that, in respect to terms, there was any option whatever on the part of the Local Government, as the contract with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. had been already made, or that more was requisite in the matter than to furnish for the information of the immigrants a statement of the advantages open to them in the island.

7. I believe I am correct in assuming that any pecuniary arrangement made by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Commitee, in conformity with the provisions of the Act 21 Vict. c. 5, would have remained in force although the Act itself was subsequently disallowed; but as the question at present stands, I apprehend that the Board constituted by the 15 Vict. c. 41, ought to be consulted before the Governor can make an order for payment of any portion of the guaranteed loan under the Act of the same year, c. 39.

8. I summoned that Board to meet at the earliest possible day after the receipt of the Order in Council disallowing the Immigration Bill; but the very unfavourable state of the weather prevented its assembling, and on the afternoon of that day I embarked in Her Majesty's ship "Basilisk" for the Island of Grand Cayman.

9. I have to state to your Lordship that I shall take an early opportunity of again convening the Board for the purpose of considering the present position of the whole question, which comes within the range of their duties, and with respect to the desire expressed by the Emigration Commissioners to be enabled to give Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., a clear explanation of the classes of persons on whom and the conditions under which the bounty would be receivable; I might venture to say at once that this Colony would readily be guided by the rules, in this respect, which obtain in British Guiana and Trinidad.

10. It may however prevent the occurrence of any new grounds for withholding immigrant labourers from Africa, if the Emigration Commissioners would be good enough to inform me, with reference to the concluding passage of their report, copy of which is transmitted with your Lordship's Despatch, what classes of these persons the Colony will be permitted to receive, and under what conditions their reception can be accomplished.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

— No. 20. —

(No. 99.)

No. 20.
Governor Darling to Right Hon. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart., M.P.
8 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

King's House, 8 July 1858.
(Received, 2 August 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 30, 14 September 1858, page 293.)

* Page 243.

WITH reference to my Despatch to your predecessor of the 25th ultimo, No. 94,* par. 9, I have now the honour to transmit a copy of the proceedings of the Board of Immigration Correspondence, at a meeting of the Board held on the 6th instant.

Enclosure.

2. It will be perceived that the Board concur in the expediency of the course which I took in submitting to Her Majesty's Government a request that the introduction of immigrant labourers might be proceeded with under the laws which, by the disallowance of the Immigration Act of last Session, have again come into operation.

3. Before the Board adopted this conclusion, I pointedly called their attention, both by written minute and *vivâ voce*, to the fact that, although in my Despatch, No. 79,† of the 25th May last, I had suggested a mode by which contracts for three years seemed feasible under the existing laws, yet it must be assumed that strictly contracts for one year only were legalised by those enactments in the case of Indian and free African immigrants.

† Page 224.

4. It

4. It was observed that Indian immigrants were formerly employed under contracts of this nature, and that even contemplating the probability that Her Majesty's Government would not sanction the plan I had submitted, it was desirable that further delay in increasing the supply of available labour should, if possible, be obviated.

5. The Board accordingly resolved that a sum not exceeding 20,000 *l.* (twenty thousand pounds) should be appropriated to the introduction of Indian immigrants, a sum not exceeding 20,000 *l.* (twenty thousand pounds) to the introduction of Chinese immigrants, and that the balance of the guaranteed loan already raised and to be raised should be applied to the introduction of African and other labourers, especially authorising the payment of 5 *l.* (five pounds) a head as required by the contract with Messrs. Hyde & Hodge, and all other incidental expenses which may be incurred, and that in all these cases as equal a proportion of the sexes as may be found possible should be observed.

6. I beg, therefore, to renew the request made in my Despatch of the 25th September last, No. 21,* that the agents in England under the Island Act 15 Vict. cap. 38, may be instructed to raise the second moiety of the guaranteed loan, and to apply the amount, together with the unexpended and unpledged portion of the moiety already raised, to the purposes stated in the preceding paragraph.

* Page 199.

7. I beg to observe, that as the 4th clause of the Act 15 Vict. cap. 39, renders the money raised thereunder applicable in general terms "to promoting the introduction into this island of free labourers," and under the Act 15 Vict. cap. 41, the Board of Immigration Correspondence have full power, with the approval and confirmation of the Secretary of State, to instruct the agents as to the class and country of the immigrants to be introduced, the cost of the requisite agency in the case of each description of labourers is defrayable out of the loan fund, and I trust that Her Majesty's Government will be good enough to direct that such steps be taken in this regard as may be deemed necessary to the efficient fulfilment of the object in view.

8. The Island Laws, 15 Vict. cap. 38, 16 Vict. cap. 30, 18 Vict. cap. 52, and 20 Vict. cap. 8, contain the provisions under which Indian and African immigrants, Chinese immigrants, and captured Africans respectively, may be introduced, and by which the conditions of their service are regulated. The 51st section of the Act 15 Vict. cap. 38, is repealed by the 16 Vict. cap. 30, and the 57th section of the same Act is also repealed by the 18 Vict. cap. 52.

9. A strong feeling was expressed at the meeting of the Immigration Board in favour of the Chinese labourers; 250 (two hundred and fifty) of these immigrants were introduced in the year 1854 in the ship "Epsom," and it is hoped that, if no better plan has since been adopted, the mode of proceeding which was pursued to obtain them may be found available for the further supply which is now earnestly solicited.

10. The law (cap. 38) legalises contracts made out of this island with the Chinese for a period of five years' duration, with a power on the part of the labourer to determine it on the expiration of the first or other current year.

11. Since the meeting of the Board, I have had the honour to receive Lord Stanley's Despatch of the 4th ultimo, by which I learn that the Colony will be allowed to appoint its own agents for the selection of emigrants in India and their embarkation at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay. With reference to the first paragraph of that communication, I beg leave to advert to my Despatches No. 21† of the 28th September last and No. 13‡ of the 18th February last, and to the 3d clause of the disallowed Immigration Law, as showing that the authorities of Jamaica concur with those of British Guiana and Trinidad in the desire to establish separate agencies. The proposal which I submitted in the first named of those Despatches, to be permitted to appoint a rejecting agent only was made in deference to the principle which was then, as I understood, maintained that the nomination of selecting agents for each colony, and the competition which would probably ensue, could not be sanctioned.

† Page 199.
‡ Page 202.

12. With regard to that part of Lord Stanley's Circular Despatch which intimates that until separate agents shall have been appointed, and are prepared to enter upon their duties, the present agents will continue to act for the West Indian Colonies by which they are employed, I have to express my hope that this island is intended to be included in the arrangement referred to.

13. Being myself strongly impressed with the conviction that Jamaica re-enters

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the field as a candidate for imported labourers from India, at a great disadvantage with the other Colonies into which the stream of immigration has flowed continuously for many years, I hope the Legislature may concur in the view I entertain that it is very desirable that we should offer to immigrants of all classes the most favourable terms in respect to the duration of contracts, the periods of industrial service, and other restrictions generally which have hitherto accompanied immigration, that may be consistent with the proper care of the immigrant, and the main object of security to employers generally, regular labour at a rate of remuneration which the profits of sugar cultivation can afford. I beg to inquire, therefore, whether, if a law which on the points alluded to should be more favourable to the immigrant than the laws of British Guiana and Trinidad, and the Duke of Newcastle's model draft, with the model supplementary clauses, should pass the Council and Assembly, such a law, if otherwise unobjectionable, would be sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government.

14. At the present moment there is again a very general complaint of the difficulty of procuring labour for the due cultivation of the sugar estates. Much misunderstanding, at the same time, prevails as to the effect of the disallowance of the Immigration Act of last Session, and the views entertained by Her Majesty's Government upon the question generally. Petitions based upon this misunderstanding are in circulation for signature.

15. I have endeavoured to correct these erroneous impressions in the Minute which I laid before the Board of Immigration Correspondence, and the Board, concurring with me in the belief that the publication of that minute will prevent further agitation on the subject, and be otherwise productive of encouraging effects, have directed that course to be pursued.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. in No. 20.

Enclosure in No. 20.

At a meeting of the Board of Immigration Correspondence, held on the 6th July 1858, at 11 o'clock,

Present:—His Excellency the Governor, the Honourable E. Jordon, the Honourable G. Price, P. A. Espeut, and S. W. Mais, Esqrs.

Mr. Ewart, A. G. I. was also in attendance.

His Excellency the Governor read a minute stating that by the disallowance of the Immigration Act, 1857, the functions of this Board are revived under the Act 15 Vict. cap. 41, &c.; and intimating that it is desirable that his Excellency should have it in his power to acquaint Her Majesty's Government that this Board distinctly sanctions the requisite expenditure for the purpose of introducing emigrants into this island, as set forth in the minute.

The Governor also read an extract from his Despatch to Lord Stanley, on the subject of the disallowance of the Immigration Act, 1857.

No. 79 of 22 May 1858.

Resolved, That the Board concur in the recommendation made by the Governor to the Secretary of State, as stated in his minute of this day, for the introduction of Indian immigrants under the existing law; and that the Board authorise the appropriation of a sum not exceeding 20,000 *l.* (twenty thousand pounds) for the introduction of Indian immigrants; as well as a further sum of twenty thousand pounds for the introduction of Chinese labourers into this Colony; and that the balance of the loan now raised, and to be raised, be appropriated to the introduction of African and other labourers in as equal a proportion of the sexes as possible.

The Governor then communicated Lord Stanley's Despatch, No. 67, of 25th February, 1858; also No. 30, of 21st May; as well as his Despatch, No. 94, of 25th June, of same year.

Resolved, That the Board sanction and authorise the payment of 5 *l.* for each African adult, as well as the dollar to the emigration agent at the port of embarkation, as well as all other incidental expenses that may be incurred in the introduction of the liberated Africans.

Resolved, That all these proceedings be published in the "Colonial Standard" and morning journal papers, and that the expenses attending this be defrayed out of the emigration fund.

Board adjourned *sine die*.

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EXTRACT from Governor *Darling*'s Despatch to Lord *Stanley*, dated 22 May 1858. No. 79.

29. YOUR Lordship will now I trust permit me to refer to the question of immigration generally, as affected by the disallowance of the Act of last Session, and the practical bearing of its present position, in reference to the agricultural interests of this Colony.

By my Despatch of the 28th September last, No. 21, I conveyed the request of the Commissioners of Immigration Correspondence, that the remainder of the guaranteed loan, about 56,000 *l.* (fifty-six thousand pounds), might be applied as soon as possible to purposes of coolie immigration. By the reply of your Lordship's predecessor, No. 58, of 15th January last, with its enclosed report from the Emigration Commissioners, I learned that the objection to taking immediate steps for complying with that request, consisted in the necessity which was felt of referring back to the Colony, in consequence of the desire which had been expressed to appoint a special agent in India for the purpose of rejecting unsuitable emigrants; and the advanced period of the last emigration season, which would thus have arrived before that reference could be replied to.

30. In my Despatch, No. 13, of the 8th February, I reported that the Legislature had left the question of the appointment of such an agent entirely in the hands of Her Majesty's Government; and I concluded that Despatch by earnestly requesting that no further delay might be "permitted to occur in initiating arrangements for a future supply of coolie labourers to the Colony."

31. The laws which were in force when Mr. Labouchere addressed to me his Despatch, No. 58, and which were not then considered to preclude the Colony from participating in coolie immigration, are again in operation, and they present, I believe, in no respect terms less favourable to the immigrants than those which are offered by British Guiana and Trinidad, but on the contrary these terms are, I apprehend, in some respects even more liberal.

32. The difficulties therefore on this score in procuring immigrants which, as your Lordship justly observed, would probably operate against the Colony under the disallowed Act, not only no longer exist, but have been converted into advantages; and the present employers of labour in this Colony will, I fear, find it difficult to understand that they are not treated with some injustice as compared with their fellow-colonists elsewhere, if with the financial means in hand, with laws regulating the introduction of labourers, already sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, and with a special application from the proper authorities in the Colony, laid before Her Majesty's Government so far back as the month of October last, any effort to meet their desires is still to be indefinitely deferred until the result of another appeal to the Legislature at the close of the present year shall have been ascertained.

33. Your Lordship will, I trust, avert a consequence so much on every account to be deplored, by directing that if all chance of obtaining coolie immigrants in the present year should unfortunately be already pretermitted, a proportionably larger share of liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, or of labourers from any other source which may hereafter develope itself shall, until the balance between this and the other Colonies is adjusted, be forwarded to our shores. I am not insensible to the possibility that objections to a compliance with this appeal, however reasonable and natural it may be admitted to be, are to be found in the confusion which appears to exist between the Acts of the 15 Vict. caps. 38 and 39; the latter Act, as I have had occasion to point out in the previous part of this Despatch, contemplates engagements of service for three years with the same employer, and it is no doubt of importance, for the sake of the reimbursement to the revenue of part of the cost of introduction, to which object that provision of the Act was specially directed, that such engagements should if possible be made. It must be assumed however that the Act 15 Vict. cap. 38, in conjunction with the 10th section of the 5th Vict. cap. 43, legalises contracts only whose duration does not exceed one year. But I perceive that one of the supplementary draft clauses transmitted with Mr. Secretary Labouchere's Despatch, No. 58, of the 15th January last, makes it lawful to assign emigrants on their arrival to "planters who shall be ready to employ them;" and this assignment is contemplated by other clauses of the Draft Act, to be for a period of three years.

34. The principle therefore of assignment for three years by recommendation, instead of by perfectly free choice, is thus sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, and is indeed adopted in the interest of the immigrant himself, who leaves India under an engagement with the Government that he will submit to it on his arrival in the West Indies. To the immigrant it can, I conceive, under those circumstances, be a matter of no concern, whether his three years' service is legalised, and its conditions guarded under one continuous, or under three successive instruments; and it seems to me that if the Immigration Agent merely renewed at the end of the first and second years respectively that assignment of the immigrant which he made on his arrival, a proceeding which the Attorney General by his memorandum seems to consider feasible under the law as it now stands, and which would be no greater invasion of the coolie's strictly natural rights, than is the first assignment itself, the object of securing a three years' service would be accomplished in subordination to the requirements of law.

35. This suggestion, I need not remark, can have reference only to the case of the few immigrants who might be introduced before the revived laws shall be amended; and if the Legislature should think fit so to amend those laws as to clearly legalise three years' contracts the *ex post facto* application to these immigrants of such amended law, if containing

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only provisions to which they were already prepared to submit, would scarcely, I think, be open to objections founded in reason or equity, although perhaps liable to technical exception.

MINUTE for the Board of Immigration Correspondence.

By the disallowance of the Immigration Act, 1857, the functions of this Board are revived under the Act 15 Vict. cap. 41.

The Board are aware, that immediately after the promulgation of that disallowance, I caused them to be summoned to meet upon the 15th ultimo.

The inclemency of the weather prevented the proposed meeting taking place, and upon the afternoon of that day I embarked in H. M. S. "Basilisk," and proceeded on duty to the island of Grand Cayman.

I returned to the seat of government at too late a date to allow of the Board's being again summoned to meet before the departure of the last packet. My object in now convening the Board is to inform them of the present position of the immigration question; to acquaint them with the steps which have been taken in the matter during the period when, under the disallowed Act, the responsibility rested upon the Governor with the advice of the Executive Committee, and to consult with them as to the expediency of adopting further measures, now that that responsibility has again devolved upon the Board, in order that any communication which may appear necessary may be made to Her Majesty's Government by the packet which will be despatched on the 11th instant.

It has been considered necessary to disallow the Immigration Act of last Session, upon three grounds:—

1st. Because it sanctioned a contract with a first employer of five years' duration instead of three years.

2d. Because in the case of Indian immigrants, it provided that during their second period of five years' industrial residence, they should be under annual indentures of service, or pay the sum of 2 *l.* 10 *s.* per annum to the public revenue; and did not reserve the right of the immigrant to quit the Colony at the expiration of the first five years' industrial residence at his own expense; and,

3d. Because it restricted the re-indenturing of immigrants at the expiration of the first five years of industrial residence to the body of employers, at whose charge, or, in other words, upon whose application, they might have been originally introduced.

With respect to the first of these points, it appears that the immigration laws of other West India Colonies limit first contracts to a duration of three years; and that this limitation has also been agreed upon between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India, as a condition upon which the emigration of the natives of India receives the sanction of the latter Government.

I have explained to the Secretary of State, that the principle of a five years' contract was embodied in the disallowed law as submitted to the Legislature, under the belief that it was already feasible under the pre-existing laws which are now revived, and under a mistaken impression that it was also the law of British Guiana and Trinidad.

The belief that it was already sanctioned under the laws of Jamaica, appears to have been founded upon reasoning which I have stated to the Secretary of State in the following words:—

"The Act 15 Vict. cap. 38, requires an industrial residence of five years before the immigrant can leave the country. 'Industrial residence' is declared to be the time during which the immigrant is under written engagement to work with 'some planter,' according to the interpretation of the term as given in the Act. Although the Act, in conjunction with the 5 Vict. cap. 43, sec. 10 (the old masters' and servants' law), only legalises contracts of one year's duration, yet it is maintained that the assignment for 'industrial service' being for five years, successive annual contracts may be made to secure that service to the planter to whom it is granted; and that this is in fact tantamount to a five years' contract.

"Again, the 16th clause of the Act 15 Vict. cap. 39, passed on the same day with the Act, cap. 38, refers to parties receiving the services of immigrants under agreements to labour for not less than three years, and upon that basis provides for the repayment by three annual instalments of two-thirds of the cost of the introduction of immigrants imported under the provisions of the Act. From the 21st clause of the Act it is clear, also, that Indian and African immigrants were amongst those whose introduction was contemplated, since that clause, it will be seen, expressly alludes to contracts with (amongst others) immigrants introduced from Africa and the continent of Asia at the cost of individual planters, 'under contracts for service,' for 'the space of not less than three years,' and these cannot be the immigrants referred to in the 58th and 59th clauses of the 15th Vict. cap. 38, as introduced under contracts made in the country from which such immigrants proceed, because immigrants from Africa and the territories of the East India Company are, by the very language of the 1st of those clauses, excepted from their operation. The expression, 'not less than three years,' is assumed to imply that engagements for 'more than three years' were admissible, if the object of those clauses had required them; and the maximum limit was considered, as I have already explained, to be necessarily fixed by the five years' duration of the industrial residence."

With respect to the second objection, namely, the necessity of annual contracts for the second five years of industrial residence, I have respectfully pointed out to the Secretary of State,

State, that before the passing of the disallowed Act this provision already existed under the Act of the 20 Vict. cap. 8, which law had been passed in pursuance of the recommendation of Mr. Secretary Labouchere in 1856.

The deprivation of the right of the coolie to return at his own expense at the end of the first five years' industrial residence, was the unintentional result of adopting in the disallowed Act the language of the Act 20 Vict. cap. 8, while at the same time repealing the Act 15 Vict., cap. 38. So long as the latter Act was in force, the right which the coolie possessed under it to leave the Colony at the end of five years' industrial residence, at his own expense, was not affected, as the former of those Acts only extended the period of industrial residence necessary to entitle him to a passage back at the public expense.

It is admitted by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, in their Report upon the disallowed Act, that with reference to the probable cost of a back passage, this privilege is "quite nugatory," although good faith towards the Government of India, requires that it should be distinctly reserved in the law of the Colony.

With respect to the third point of objection, I have submitted to the Secretary of State, that the limitation as to re-indenturing amongst original applicants only for immigrants, differs in practice but little from the limitation already fixed by the revived Act 15 Vict. chap. 38. That Act prescribes that the engagement for labour which constitutes industrial residence, whether under indenture or re-indenture, must be with "some planter," and the term "planter" is defined by the Act to mean "the owner or tenant in possession, or other person having the charge or management of any sugar, coffee, or cotton plantation or any pimento walk."

I am of opinion, that if the Legislature should think fit, these objections may all be removed without affecting the main principle in these respects upon which the disallowed Act is based, namely, that the cost of introducing immigrants should be defrayed by contributions from those who receive the benefit of their contract labour during the first five years of industrial residence, or from the immigrants themselves, when not under contract.

Upon receiving the intimation that the Act would be disallowed, I anxiously considered the question whether it was desirable immediately to convene the Legislature in order to submit to it the proposal to re-enact the disallowed law with the required amendments: a course which it may be observed could not, however promptly adopted, have had any practical result for some months to come; or to urge without delay, that the desire of the employers of hired labour, which, under a resolution of this Board, I originally preferred in the month of September last, to receive the assistance of coolie immigration, under the laws then in force, should be met, if possible, under those laws, as now revived.

There appeared to me several objections, which I need not here state, to convening the Legislature so long before the usual period; I decided, therefore, upon adopting the other course referred to, and before the Order in Council disallowing the Act of 1857 was received in the Colony, I addressed Her Majesty's Government accordingly. I lay before the Board an extract of my Despatch, which will put them fully in possession of the nature of the representation I have made.

I desire to ascertain whether the opinion of the Board is confirmatory of the views I have expressed to Her Majesty's Government; and in forming a conclusion, I think it should be carefully borne in mind, that Her Majesty's Government regard the existing body of law as sanctioning contracts with African and Indian immigrants for a duration of one year only.

I think it right the Board should be informed that the Secretary of State has expressed his great regret at the necessity which his Lordship felt himself to be under of disallowing the Act of 1857, and has assured me that he has "every disposition to co-operate with the Legislature of Jamaica in their efforts to restore the agricultural and commercial prosperity of the island, and with a full sense of the value of immigrant labour in the accomplishment of this object."

It is also, I think, desirable that the Board should know that in reply to the representations from some of the inhabitants of the Colony against the Act, which, as the Board are probably aware, were forwarded to Her Majesty's Government, I have been directed to inform those from whom they proceeded that the Act had been disallowed before their representations were received.

I have to acquaint the Board that having reason to believe that Africans from Sierra Leone were likely to be forwarded to other West India Colonies, and that projects were on foot for the introduction into those Colonies of immigrants from Bombay and China, I lost no time in preferring to Her Majesty's Government, on behalf of this Colony, a request that it might receive a fair portion of the labourers from Africa, and be permitted the opportunity of participating in the advantages of the other schemes referred to.

A communication from the Secretary of State respecting the liberated Africans had been addressed to me before the receipt at the Colonial Department of my Despatch upon that subject, and I have replied to it in such a manner as may, I trust, secure to the Colony the benefit of some portion of those valuable labourers.

I think, however, it is desirable that, under present circumstances, I should be able to acquaint Her Majesty's Government that this Board distinctly sanctions the requisite expenditure for that purpose, and I submit the question accordingly for their consideration as proposed in the Despatches which I now lay before the Board.

Having had occasion during the period when the disallowed Act was in operation to provide for the return passages of Indian immigrants, an expenditure of about 1,660 *l.* (one thousand six hundred and sixty pounds) was incurred on that account. The effect of this

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has been to reduce the amount remaining of that portion of the guaranteed loan already raised to about 3,800 *l.* (three thousand eight hundred pounds.)

It will be for the Board to consider in what proportion the remainder, together with the amount remaining to be raised, viz., 50,000 *l.* (fifty thousand pounds) should be appropriated towards the introduction of different classes of immigrants; and I take the opportunity of putting the Board in possession of documents which, although not received by me officially, will serve to show the system proposed to be put in operation for conducting Chinese immigration to British Guiana and Trinidad.

King's House, 6 July 1858. *C. H. Darling*, Secretary.

— No. 21. —

(No. 106.)

No. 21. Governor Darling to Right Hon. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton Bart. M.P. 6 August 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P. &c. &c.

King's House, 6 August 1858.
(Received, 2 September 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 31, 15 September 1858, p. 294.)

Enclosure 1. Enclosure 2.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two memorials which have been addressed to me by the proprietors, attorneys, &c., of the parishes of Westmoreland and Manchester respectively, complaining of the want of labourers for hire, and the loss which they experience in their agricultural operations in consequence.

2. I have hitherto had reason to suppose that the parish of Westmoreland had less ground of complaint in this respect than any other parish in the island. The memorial from that parish is, however, signed by those who own or represent every sugar estate in it, by all the clergy of the Established Church, and numerous small farmers and traders.

3. As it appeared to me that the memorialists from Westmoreland evidently entertained mistaken views as to the effect of the disallowance of the immigration law of last Session, and the necessity of immediately calling the Legislature together for the purpose of resuming the consideration of the question, I caused a reply to be sent to them, of which I have the honour to enclose a copy.

Enclosure 3.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. 1, in No. 21.

Enclosure 1, in No. 21.

Jamaica ss.

To His Excellency *Charles Henry Darling*, Esquire, Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over this Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica, &c. &c. &c.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Planters, and other Inhabitants of the Parish of Westmoreland, engaged or interested in Agriculture and the general welfare of the Island,

Showeth,

THAT your petitioners have noticed with the deepest concern the official announcement of the disallowance by Her Majesty the Queen of the "Immigration Act, 1857."

That the exigencies of the country were and are such as to have induced your petitioners to look forward, as a last hope, to the arrival of a considerable number of agricultural labourers, whose presence and labour would have afforded the only relief from a state of things now tending to the early extinction of sugar and all other cultivation throughout the island.

That the disallowance of this Act has caused great dismay among your petitioners, inasmuch as it has destroyed their last remaining hope of being able to carry on cultivation, and thus must utterly ruin their most vital interests.

Your petitioners, therefore, deem it their duty humbly to represent to your Excellency the above facts, and to pray that your Excellency may be pleased to consider the expediency of immediately convening the Legislature, for averting if possible the present impending ruin, or for the adoption of such other measures as in the judgment of your Excellency may be deemed necessary in the present emergency.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

(307 Signatures.)

Westmoreland, Jamaica, 28 June 1858.

Enclosure 2, in No. 21.

Encl. 2, in No. 21.

To his Excellency *Charles H. Darling*, Esquire, Governor, &c.

The Memorial of the undersigned Proprietors, Attorneys, and others concerned in the Cultivation of Coffee in the Parish of Manchester,

Showeth,

That since emancipation this parish has greatly suffered from the want of labour, causing much loss to us not only in the general cultivation of our coffee fields, but especially in the reaping of the crop.

That of late years this inconvenience has been considerably aggravated, in consequence of the independent character to which the general body of the labourers has attained, as they now cultivate patches of coffee on their own lately purchased freeholds, and have even become competitors with your memorialists in the demand for labour.

That owing to these causes the cultivation of the properties of your memorialists is retrograding; and in some instances the fields, if not wholly, are partially neglected, and in some instances coffee has been lost, dropping from the trees, from want of hands to pick it, even at an increase of wages.

That your memorialists have all along contributed to the funds raised for immigration purposes by an export tax on their produce and otherwise, but have not hitherto benefited or had the slightest aid therefrom, not a single immigrant having been, as yet, located in the parish of Manchester: They therefore beg respectfully to press their necessities and claims upon the attention of your Excellency, and pray for such speedy relief in the premises as to your Excellency may seem fit.

And your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

(23 Signatures.)

Enclosure 3, in No. 21.

Encl. 3, in No. 21.

(No. 751.)

Government Secretary's Office, King's House,
14 July 1858.

Sir,

I AM instructed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of the petition of certain planters and others of the parish of Westmoreland, and to request you to inform those gentlemen that his Excellency cannot better reply to their petition, or, as he trusts, allay the anxiety they express, than by requesting their reference to the Minute and accompanying Despatch laid by the Governor before the Board of Immigration Correspondence at its meeting on the 6th instant, and which has been published in the "Standard" and "Morning Journal" newspapers for general information.

Circular, 4 June 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin*,
Government Secretary.

William Vickers, Esq.
Belleisle Estate.

— No. 22. —

(No 115.)

No. 22. Governor Darling to Right Hon. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart. M.P. 30 August 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

King's House, 30 August 1858.
(Received, 2 October 1858.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 42, 11 November 1858, p. 295.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your despatch, No. 3,* of the 7th June last, transmitting to me the copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners upon the subject of the immigration of Indian coolies into Jamaica; and directing me to report how far the figures in the Commissioners' letter represent accurately the history of the immigration referred to.

* Page 289.

2. I have experienced some difficulty in reconciling apparent variations between the statement contained in the Commissioners' letter and some of the returns, from time to time furnished by the immigration agent in this Colony, and also between certain of the earlier and later of the returns themselves.

3. The result of my investigation will be found embodied in the return which I have now the honour to enclose, and which, I think, may be relied upon, as giving accurately the statistics of coolie immigration.

Enclosure 1.

4. I beg leave also to enclose the copy of a letter from the Agent General of Immigration, explaining what he supposes to be the cause of the difference between the Emigration Commissioners' statement and the facts as shown by the records of his office.

Enclosure 2.

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5. The four coolies stated in the enclosure, No. 1, to have returned to India in the years 1851 and 1852 were sent to England in those years, and from thence forwarded to their ultimate destination at the expense of the Colony.

6. With respect to the 1,597 (fifteen hundred and ninety-seven) coolies shown to be unaccounted for, I am unable to add any information to that which will be found in the enclosed extract of a report from Mr. Ewart, and by which you will perceive that several hundred are stated to have migrated to Central America between the years 1853 and 1855, under the stimulus of the high wages which were at that time offered to labourers upon the Panama Railway.

Enclosure 3. 24 July 1858.

7. I beg to state, in conclusion, that the five coolies, referred to in the report of the Emigration Commissioners, who, for reasons of their own, declined to proceed with their countrymen in the "Sir George Pollock," have since been included in the number of those entitled to commutation money, shown in the Enclosure, No. 1, to be 18 (for the year 1858), although they could not of course strictly claim that consideration; and that consequently there are now no coolies in Jamaica who have any claim upon the local Government, either for return passages or for commutation money.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. 1, in No. 22.

Enclosure 1, in No. 22.

YEARS.	Total Number of Coolies introduced into Jamaica.	Number Returned to India.		Number who have taken the Commutation Money.		Number of Coolies Unaccounted for.	REMARKS.
		Adults.	Children born in Jamaica.	Adults.	Children born in Jamaica.		
1845 - -	261	—	—	—	—	—	
1846 - -	1,851	—	—	—	—	—	
1847 - -	2,439	—	—	—	—	—	
1851 - -	- -	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	Sailed from England as stated in my Report, dated 24th July last. Of the 263 children born in Jamaica and returned to India, 81 were infants under one year of age, as stated in the nominal lists or descriptive rolls of coolies placed on board the "Ostrich," "Harkaway," "Edward," "William Jardine," "Glonana," and "Sir George Pollock."
1852 - -	- -	2					
1853 - -	- -	1,030	137	623	41	—	
1854 - -	- -	348	81	412	30	—	
1855 - -	- -	- -	- -	438	21	—	
1858 - -	- -	81	45	—	—	—	
" - -	- -	- -	- -	18	—	—	
TOTALS -	4,551	1,463	263	1,491	92	1,597	

Immigration Office, 21 August 1858.

(signed) *D. Ewart*, A. G. I.

Encl. 2, in No. 22.

Enclosure 2, in No. 22.

(No. 138.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 21 August 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 838, of the 14th instant.

In my return, dated 25th June 1855, I did not include the infants under one year of age who had returned to India, because no passage money had been paid for them, and because they had been accounted for in a previous return, of which I enclose a copy transmitted to Sir H. Barkly, and to the Land and Emigration Commissioners in 1854.

In this return it will be perceived that, in 1853 and 1854, 76 infants, under 12 months old, returned to India, which number the Land and Emigration Commissioners have included in the figures representing the number of immigrants, including the children born in Jamaica, who have returned to India. In other words, my return of June 1855, dealing only with coolies who were the subjects of return passages and commutation payments, under the Act

18 Vict.

18 Vict. c. 21, which limited the time for them to come forward and exercise the option allowed to them, showed 1,378 adults, and 142 children born in Jamaica, making 1,520, exclusive of the 76 infants, and the Commissioners, preparing their return for general reference, added the number of infants to the number 1520, making 1,596.

With regard to the 38 children born in Jamaica, and who were to be accommodated with return passages, as stated in my return of June 1855, I beg to remark, that as no coolies, since the date of that return, were sent to India until this year, the children had increased from 38 to 45, which number was placed on board the "Sir George Pollock," and classified as 40 non-adults, and five infants under one year of age.

With regard to the 263 children born in Jamaica, and who have returned to India, they have been accounted for in my several returns as follows:—

In 1853 - - - - - - - - - -	137
1854 - - - - - - - - - -	81
1858 - - - - - - - - - -	45
	263

Now these children form, of course, no portion of the coolies who emigrated to Jamaica; but the Commissioners, in accounting for the original number of emigrants who have returned to India, instead of deducting 263 from 1,726, the whole number of coolies who had returned to India up to 1858, have only deducted 142, which latter number they have taken from my return of the 25th June 1855, and have apparently overlooked my previous returns.

These several returns were required from time to time, to illustrate, during nearly six years, the course of legislation upon the subject of return passages and commutations, which were not contemplated when the guarantee was originally given for back passages.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Ewart*, A. G. I.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary, &c. &c. &c.
King's House.

Enclosure 3, in No. 22.

Encl. 3, in No. 22.

(No. 129.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 24 July 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 767, of the 16th instant, enclosing a copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State, and a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and instructing me to report how far the figures contained in the letter from the Commissioners represent accurately the history of coolie immigration into Jamaica, and whether I am able to supply any information as to the 1,500 coolies stated to be not accounted for.

In reply, I beg to state that the figures do not represent accurately the history of coolie immigration into Jamaica.

The total number of East Indians introduced into Jamaica was - -		4,551
Sent to India - - - - - - - - - -	1,722	
Left Jamaica, and arrived in England, in the years 1851 and 1852, whence they were sent to India at the expense of the Colony - - - - - - - - - -	4	
	1,726	
Children born in the colony - - - - - - - -	263	
Leaving the number of original emigrants returned to their country - - - - - - - - - -	1,463	
The number of those who have commuted their return passages was, on the 19th November 1855 - - - - -	1,473	
Total disposed of - - - - -	2,936	
Number of those who refused to go in the "Sir George Pollock," namely, 5 Calcutta and 13 Madras coolies - - - -	18	
		2,954
Died or disappeared - - - - - - - - - -		1,597

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary, &c. &c. &c.
King's House.

RETURN of COOLIE EMIGRANTS introduced into the Colony of *Jamaica* at the Public Expense, who have Embarked for their Native Country.

Date of Embarkation.	Name of Ship.	Destination.	Number Embarked.				Total.	Total Statute Adults.	Rate of Passage Money per Statute Adult.	Sum to be paid as Passage Money.	REMARKS Relative to Infants on Board, who are not included in the preceding Columns.
			Adults.		Non-Adults.						
			M.	F.	M.	F.					
1853:									£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
28 March -	Ostrich -	Calcutta -	128	36	11	10	185	174½	12 8 -	2,163 16 -	-- 13 infants on board, for whom no charge is made.
4 April -	Harkaway -	Calcutta and Madras.	264	73	20	14	371	354	13 14 8	4,849 16 -	-- 19 infants on board, for whom no charge is made.
4 „ -	Edward -	Madras -	192	83	16	8	299	287	12 14 8	3,654 9 4	-- 5 infants on board, for whom no charge is made.
8 „ -	William Jardine.	Calcutta and Madras.	228	26	6	10	270	262	12 7 -	3,235 14 -	-- 5 infants on board, for whom no charge is made.
1854:											
24 January -	Gloriana -	Calcutta and Madras.	280	68	23	24	395	371½	14 17 6	5,526 1 3	-- 34 infants on board, for whom no charge is made.
			1,092	286	76	66	1,520	1,449	- -	19,429 16 7	76 infants.

Immigration Office,
8 February 1854.

(signed) *D. Ewart*, A. G. I.

— No. 23. —

No. 23.

Governor Darling to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M.P. 24 Sept. 1858.

(No. 118.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

King's House, 24 September 1858.
(Received, 15 October 1858.)

Sir (Answered, No. 52, 30 November 1858, p. 297.)

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that having communicated to the Board of Immigration Correspondence Lord Stanley's Circular Despatch of the 4th June last,* the Board adopted a resolution, which appears in the extract of the proceedings of the Board, enclosed herewith, requesting me to appoint, on behalf of the Colony, emigration agents in India and China.

13 July 1858.

* *Vide* Appendix. No. 3, p. 424.

2. I have considered that no advantage to the Colony could result from my compliance with this request, in the absence of a favourable reply from Her Majesty's Government to the suggestion contained in my Despatch, No. 79,† of the 22d May 1858, that immigration might be permitted to take place under the laws now in force, which, at the time they were passed, were not deemed objectionable or unsuited to the purpose.

† Page 224.

I have hitherto deferred reporting the proceedings of the Board of Immigration Correspondence, deeming it better to await some intimation of the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon the point referred to; but apprehending that further delay in doing so might tend to the impression that the local authorities were indifferent to the privilege which has been conceded to the Colony, of appointing its own agents, I have now thought it right to bring those proceedings under your notice.

4. I am also desirous of availing myself of the opportunity of submitting to you a few observations in reference to the allusions contained in recent Despatches from your predecessor and yourself, to the bad faith which is considered to have characterised the proceedings of former authorities in Jamaica in respect to the back passages of African, Indian, and Chinese immigrants.

5. With respect to Chinese immigrants, whose back passages are referred to in the fourth paragraph of your Despatch, No. 5,‡ of the 21st June, I beg to state, that I was not aware that provision for the return passage of this class of immigrants

‡ Page 290.

immigrants had ever formed a condition of their introduction into the West Indies; nor do I perceive that any such provision is embodied in the "Draft Ordinance for the encouragement of Immigration into British Guiana from China," or at least in a copy of that Ordinance, which I presume to be correct, that has been placed in my hands by a gentleman in this island, who had himself received it from a Member of the West India Committee in London. If that condition is now indispensable, I am bound to admit, it may make a material difference in the views of those planters who have expressed a wish to be enabled to employ labourers from China at their own ultimate cost as respects their introduction, but in the belief that it was not required to provide for their return passages at the expiration of their residence in the colony. I hope that upon this point I may be favoured with the information necessary for my guidance in communicating with employers in the colony who are anxious for the services of labourers of this description.

6. With respect to the return passages of African and Indian immigrants, it would not, in the view of the case which I am about respectfully to urge, answer any useful purpose, and would certainly in many respects be a task of no little delicacy to attempt to enter upon a review of the circumstances which were considered, previously to Sir Henry Barkly's administration, to have rendered it inexpedient to make a distinct application to the Legislature, or to the former Commissioners of Accounts for the pecuniary means necessary to give practical operation to the laws which were passed in the earlier period of the history of immigration for the express purpose of providing for the fulfilment of the condition in respect to back passages which was attached to the original introduction of such immigrants.

7. Sir Henry Barkly's correspondence upon the subject will show, I think, that during his administration the difficulties which he had to encounter were the fruits, to a great extent, of former delay, and were of such a nature, viz., the impossibility of obtaining ships, as could not be overcome.

8. But the point which I trust I may now be permitted to press upon your attention is this, viz., that since the present form of government was established in 1854, and the powers of the Commissioners of Accounts were transferred to the Governor and Executive Committee, no transaction with respect to the return passages of immigrants has taken place which has not indicated a desire to remedy the neglects of the past, and to prevent the possibility of their recurrence.

9. I will presently advert more particularly to the facts which support this view; but before I proceed further I will venture to appeal to your better judgment and enlightened statesmanship, whether, with reference to the relations between a dependency and the parent state, it would not be a sounder and more generous policy to regard the change in the constitution of this colony as a new era in its political history; to consign to official oblivion at least the occurrences of the previous period; and to consider the reformed Legislature of Jamaica as having entered upon a new course, in which it will be judged by its own acts and by those alone.

10. Still more earnestly would I venture to ask, not merely whether it is politic and generous, but whether it is simply just, that the omissions and short-comings of former legislatures and governments of the colony should be visited upon those who conduct the cultivation of estates at the present day.

11. The changes which have taken place amongst that body, and in the composition of the Legislative Houses, since the period when the immigrants, in respect to whom it is considered that bad faith has been exhibited and public promises been broken, were introduced, are so considerable that such a retribution would now fall not merely upon those intended to be affected by it, but to a great extent upon others living at a subsequent period of time, and under an altered form of government, administered by a different set of rulers.

12. Reverting to my observation, that since the change in the government of the colony no imputation of bad faith, in respect to the return passages of immigrants, can fairly be alleged against its authorities, I beg to state that the only application after that event, and previously to my assumption of the Government, from claimants of back passages to Africa, appears to have been made when the opportunity of the transport "Perseverance" presented itself in 1856.

JAMAICA.

13. It may certainly be, as remarked in Lord Stanley's Despatch of the 26th May last, No. 31,* that these immigrants had been, to some extent, discouraged by former disappointment, and had abstained from pressing their claims; but with no inconsiderable experience of the African race, I must say that their characteristic in this respect is never to abandon a claim which has the slightest foundation, and of which they are really desirous to avail themselves. I think it probable, rather, that many of them gradually became more settled and established as owners of land and houses, formed marriage, or quasi-marriage, connexions, and thus in progress of time ceased to entertain the desire to leave the island.

* Page 287.

14. I may here take the opportunity of observing, that although I fully admit that the pledge given in this respect ought strictly to be redeemed if insisted upon, it should always, I think, have been qualified by the condition that in the cases of those immigrants who had formed connexions of the nature alluded to, they should be bound to show that they had made provision for the women and children whom they thus purposed to abandon, and that even as the question at present stands, social and moral considerations justify the use in such cases of every legitimate persuasion to remain.

15. So far as my own administration is concerned, I can affirm that the question of immigration generally is one which engaged my earliest attention, not less from my own conviction of its importance, than because the failure on the part of the Colonial authorities to pursue it vigorously and systematically had been prominently referred to in the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch, No. 1 of the 16th April 1853, as a cause of the distress which at that time existed in the island.

16. Immediately after my assumption of the Government I called for full returns upon the subject, and perceiving by one of those documents that 125 coolies still claimed passages to India, I directed that the first vessel eligible under the provisions of the Passengers' Act, and available for the purpose, should be engaged.

17. Before any such opportunity presented itself, the Immigration Law of 1857, the clauses of which relating to back passages of future immigrants have, I may observe, been declared, after the careful examination of the Emigration Commissioners, to be satisfactory, was passed. The 91st clause of that Act provides also for the return passages of Indian immigrants then remaining in the island; and under that clause I despatched in the "Sir George Pollock" all such immigrants as elected to avail themselves of the occasion, and no claims of this kind now remain unsatisfied.

18. With respect to African immigrants, the number who have applied to me for the means of returning to Africa has not exceeded 12, and the nature of their requests has always been that they may be allowed an opportunity of returning whenever a transport or other Government vessel may be proceeding to Sierra Leone. As the case of one of these immigrants has been specially referred to in the third paragraph of Lord Stanley's Despatch to me, No. 31† of the 26th May last, as having been rejected by the Board of Immigration Correspondence, I beg permission to explain that I acted erroneously in bringing the case referred to before that Board, which possesses no power to entertain the question of return passages. In recording, therefore, a resolution which left it open to deal with the application when an opportunity should occur, the Board evinced a disposition to exceed its powers in favour of the immigrant from whom that application proceeded.

† Page 287.

19. I respectfully submit these remarks in the hope that they may diminish the apparent gravity of the allegation of bad faith as charged upon the authorities of Jamaica, and recently referred to in the Secretary of State's Despatches, in connexion with the desire of the present conductors of estates to have the advantage of emigrant labour, and may not be permitted by you, Sir, to have those injurious effects upon the agricultural interests of the colony, which, without such explanation, they might produce.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure in No. 23.

Encl. in No. 23.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Board of Immigration Correspondence, at a Meeting held at the King's House, on the 13th July 1858.

* * * * * *

With reference to the Despatch from the Secretary of State, it was

Circular. 4 June 1858.

Resolved,—That his Excellency the Governor be requested to appoint an Emigration Agent in India on behalf of this colony, as well as one in China, for the purpose of procuring emigrants.

— No. 24. —

(No. 128.)

No. 24. Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M.P. 11 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

King's House, 11 October 1858.
(Received, 1 November 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 51, 30 November 1858, p. 296.)

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Despatches, Nos. 29* and 30.* of the 14th September last, the former acquainting me that you had given directions for the renewal of coolie immigration into Jamaica, and instructing me as to the conditions upon the fulfilment of which you have relied in again extending this advantage to the planters of this island, and the latter replying to the resolutions of the Board of Immigration Correspondence which were transmitted with my Despatch, No. 99† of the 8th July last. I have also been honoured with your Despatch, No. 27‡ of the 10th ultimo, upon the subject of immigration from Africa.

* Pages 292, 293.

† Page 244.

‡ Page 291.

2. I have summoned a Board of Immigration Correspondence to meet upon an early day, in order that I may communicate to them the substance of these Despatches; and a measure for carrying into effect the views upon the subject of immigration generally, which are entertained by yourself and your predecessor, Lord Stanley, will be submitted to the Legislature at the earliest possible period of its approaching session, which, as I have reported in another Despatch, will commence upon the 9th of next month.

3. Assuming that the Emigration Commissioners will always be apprised by the overland mail of the actual, if not indeed of the intended departure of every coolie ship for Jamaica, and that such information could be forwarded by the fortnightly packets so as to reach me some weeks before the arrival of the vessel, it would be a great convenience in every point of view if that arrangement were acted upon. It is also important, with reference to the extent of the island, that the charterparties should provide that each vessel should call off Port Morant, at the eastern end of Jamaica, for orders as to the port of final destination. During the former immigration of coolies this condition was observed, and it is one which operates strongly in favour of the immigrant, who, by being landed at the port nearest to the field of his first employment, is thus saved a long land journey immediately after disembarkation. I trust, Sir, there may be no insuperable difficulty in the way of giving effect to these suggestions should they meet your approval.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

— No. 25. —

(No. 134).

No. 25. Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M.P. 25 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

King's House, 25 October 1858.
(Received, 20 November 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 58, 4 December 1858, p. 298).

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the reports of the Stipendiary Magistrates for the half-year ending the 30th June last, with the exception of that from Mr. Chamberlaine, which I have not yet been able to obtain.

JAMAICA.

2. Amongst these documents the most deserving of attention, I think, proceed from Mr. Hill, Mr. Laidlaw, and Mr. Fyfe.

3. However entirely I coincide with Mr. Hill in the view which he entertains as to the justice and moral duty of enforcing the obligations which family ties create in lieu of throwing the maintenance of the poor upon public funds, yet I am afraid that any attempt to accomplish this end by law would be found in this country utterly impracticable, if, indeed, the principle were favourably entertained in the Legislature, which I am much inclined to doubt. It is scarcely possible to deal with it without opening up the question of bastardy as connected with the maintenance of children by their putative fathers. The laxity of morals which exists amongst the female population, and I fear especially amongst the younger portion of them, would render affiliation extremely difficult, and attempts to establish it liable to the grossest abuse.

4. For the lamentable feature in our social condition to which these remarks refer, I fear there is no remedy but in the improved religious character and moral regeneration of the people themselves.

5. In the report of Mr. Bell it will be seen that he attributes certain evil consequences to the ticket-of-leave system established by the Act 18 Vict. cap. 22, under which convicts who have conducted themselves well in prison, and have completed at least one half of their original sentences, may receive a conditional pardon, and are consigned to the service of masters, approved by the Government for three-fourths of the unexpired period of their sentences.

6. The law prescribes certain conditions on the part both of master and convict servant upon which this assignment is made. I beg leave to enclose a copy of the Licence (according to a form which I requested the Attorney General to draw up) which is issued to each prisoner upon being assigned to service, together with a Return showing the total number allotted from the date of the Acts coming into operation to the 1st June last; and the number returned to the Penitentiary in each year in consequence of having forfeited the indulgence granted.

7. Deducting those returned, the number remaining to complete their service would be 384; and as these convicts have been widely distributed, and the unexpired period of the sentence of by far the largest portion is, I perceive, considerably under a year, I cannot believe that the system is justly open to the objections to which Mr. Bell adverts.

8. I may add that I have directed that each prisoner, on leaving the Penitentiary, should be carefully informed of the rights which his licence confers, and of the obligations it imposes.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. in No. 25.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Sir, Jamaica, 22 July 1858.

THE crops throughout the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, I am led to believe, have been excellent upon most of the estates, exceeding the planters' expectations. The "yielding" has been unusually good, and the prospects for the next crop promise well. Notwithstanding the decreased value of produce now, compared with what it was last year, agricultural affairs generally present an improved aspect. Stock of all descriptions command good prices, and meet with more ready sale, and a manifest influx of enterprise has been exhibited in the farming department. I apprehend that much loss will be experienced by the shipping of sugar in an uncured state, for the purpose of saving the additional export duty, imposed after the 1st of July, by the 21st Vict. c. 37,

I have lately been told by a gentleman, on whose statements and opinions, on matters of the sort, I place great reliance, that, although the *per capita* supply of labour, compared with the demand, has not diminished; nor the price, as regulated by the day, increased; yet, the productive industry obtainable for a given sum has been considerably reduced. I desired to have his opinion as to the cause of this, and he kindly promised to talk over the matter with me at an appointed meeting, but ill health prevented my attendance.

The general condition of the labouring population, their religious and moral state, exhibit no marked change, certainly no change for the better; and I fear that we may look in vain for improvement, in these respects, among the lower classes of society, while pernicious

nicious examples of open and avowed violations of law are daily set before them by those whose position commands respect and whose example should be worthy of imitation. While any one in authority is permitted to set himself above the law with impunity, no willing obedience can be looked for from those placed in an inferior position; an erroneous notion is inculcated, and hence it is that we frequently see men notorious for their depravity, men who contemn the common decencies of life, thrust forward as the honoured and chosen of their fellow men. We have no moral standard here. We very much want moral force and moral opinion. For my part, I would class as our chief desideratum at present, that spontaneous sentiment which marks and separates the vicious and dishonest from the honest and virtuous man. In countries where this feeling pervades, and is encouraged, the actual punishment which the law imposes upon crime, weighs not so heavily on the culprit, and has a far less enduring effect upon him, than the irremovable pressure of public censure; the consciousness that, though, by the endurance of his punishment, he has atoned to the State for his transgression, society still brands him a degraded and disgraced outcast; rejected and shunned by friends and acquaintances, taunted and scorned by those he formerly despised as his inferiors, he feels the bitter consequences of his error daily until he dies. How different here! how totally deficient are we of anything like this! how altogether vain is it to expect moral improvement among the labouring population, while we are so utterly devoid of anything like this, and what rapid improvements among all classes might not be produced by the diffusion of such a sentiment among us. In my humble judgment, neither capital, nor enterprise, nor the introduction of any machinery, nor the abolition of the slave trade, neither immigration, nor protective duties, nay, not all the preaching of all the parsons, is so calculated to benefit us as a people, or to make us deserving and discerning of the blessings so bountifully scattered at our feet, as the introduction and diffusion among us of public moral opinion. The check which it would immediately give to the extensive and growing frauds upon that portion of the revenue arising from a duty on rum distilled in the island, and the result of that check, in a very few years, would be sufficient, I am convinced, to satisfy the most niggardly financier that, if money could procure it for us, any sum of money would be well expended for the purpose.

The young people of this country are growing up with very unsteady habits. It is a sad sight to behold dozens of them at the Kingston terminus, or the Spanish Town station of the Jamaica railway, in a ragged and miserable condition, pursuing a vagabond sort of life. These lads are not deficient in intellect; they are sharp, shrewd, cunning; capable of much improvement, and, although on the high road to ruin, many of them, I would say the major part of them, are reclaimable, and are certainly worth the trouble of reclaiming. There is scarcely one among them who does not fancy that he will yet become a Member of the Legislature, or, at least, a magistrate or vestryman. Should one be put to learn a trade, a carpenter for instance, as soon as he can plane a board he imagines himself a competent and complete workman, and demands full journeyman's wages, and, failing to obtain them, he betakes himself to serving in a retail shop, or to selling things about the streets, or to some other precarious mode of existence, if not to sheer idleness. As our old artisans, never famous for their expertness, are dropping off, a serious question presents itself, how their places are to be supplied. With permission, I would suggest that some municipal privilege might be attached to the faithful discharge of the duties of apprenticeship for a given number of years, and that no tradesman who had not faithfully served such apprenticeship, and upon after-examination pronounced competent to act as a master tradesman, should be permitted to superintend or take any more responsible part than that of a journeyman in the performance of any public or parochial work; and also that the means of reprimanding or punishing apprentices and other juvenile delinquents for slight offences should be very much facilitated. Masters, in this country, cannot inflict that moderate punishment, even on their youthful dependents, which is allowed in England. Here, a trifling offence, which a very slight punishment might suffice to check, must either be passed over, or brought under the cognisance of the civil magistrate; and to do this, the party invoking the magistrate's aid must advance at least 10 or 12 shillings. The consequence of this is, the offender is either immediately discharged from his employment, or permitted to continue in his error with impunity, no effort being made, in either case, to reclaim him. This is a very common case, and a very great evil. It is true, that, on conviction, the offending party is generally ordered to repay the amount to the complainant; but where is he to get it from? He probably receives only three or four shillings a week. Besides which, a prudent man, looking at the risks, will not, and a poor man cannot always make the advance; and a merciful man will decline to make himself a party to a proceeding by which an offence that would be amply compensated for by a fine of a shilling or eighteenpence should occasion, over and above the proper and adequate punishment, a forfeiture so highly disproportioned.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Witter Jackson,*
Stipendiary Magistrate, St. Thomas-in-the-Vale.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.
Secretary to his Excellency the Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

JAMAICA.

Sir, St. Dorothy, 1 July 1858.

In reporting for his Excellency's information, with regard to this district, there is a sameness from one half year to another, that leaves very little interesting matter to report.

The labour question stands thus, (and I believe the same applies to neighbouring parishes): there are four sugar estates, on which almost the whole labour is done by task-work; the task is for one shilling to one shilling and threepence, and is usually finished early in the afternoon, and no inducement will lead the labourers to commence another task; the inference therefore is, that the same number of labourers would be sufficient to cultivate two more estates, if they had the wish to enrich or raise themselves from the low state of civilisation, which they at present enjoy, for enjoy it they do, nothing but village quarrels among themselves disturbing their happiness; and were it not for the necessity for education, trade, exports, &c. (as we in this world must either advance or retrograde), the peasantry might continue as they now are, when not ill-advised, the happiest in the world, with no wants that the smallest amount of industry and forethought would not supply; the love of life itself will not induce them, with some few exceptions, to employ medical aid, although enough money is usually found for an expensive funeral, as to refreshments for the mourners.

I trust that the attention of the Legislature will be called to the growing evil of vestry jobbing: the great bulk of electors are low, illiterate people, and the consequence is, that parties are nominated in the vestry to vote for particular persons belonging to one family, whether fit for the office, or trustworthy, appears to be of no consequence; the effect of the above preponderance of low ignorant people in this parish, I am afraid, will lead to the loss of revenue to a large amount, the parish purse being sacrificed to the friends of the vestrymen; the party in this parish is headed by people of the Jewish persuasion, and has elected a person as churchwarden, contrary to the wish of the rector, and the respectable portion of the members of the Church of England. This interference in the affairs of the Church is unusual, if not unheard of by Jews.

Cattle killing and stealing continues fearfully; is as difficult to detect and punish as before, from the fear one negro feels for another, and the threats held out by the bolder and more wicked of the race.

The police sergeant of this parish has been very active lately (he has for many years been most attentive to his duties) in discovering larcenies, and has apprehended a regular professional receiver of stolen goods, watches, miniatures, stolen in different parts of the island; he is an African, and is an Obeah man, so that this forerunner of civilisation has anticipated its arrival in country parts.

I attribute this refinement in crime greatly to the general liberty given to the convicts on leave, by some of their employers. There is no distinction made between the convicts and those who ought to be supposed the honest countrymen; there is no discipline with regard to these convicts; they are not sent to church or chapel, but left to themselves; it is a wonder if the whole country be not completely demoralised.

Our lowland schools are well attended, but there being no industrial arrangements for teaching agriculture, horticulture, or simple trades, the little learning and morality the pupils acquire (added to the bad example they usually find on their return home) appears hitherto, from the conduct of those who have left school, well taught, to be the reverse of satisfactory; however hopeless apparently, it will be the duty of the legislature, clergy, and all who can aid, to continue their endeavours to enlighten these poor (in a moral sense) lately emancipated creatures.

The sugar crop in this part of the country has been very good, and well got in, as the weather has been dry, which is, however, not very favourable with regard to the ensuing crop, and is very detrimental to pen-keeping, rearing of stock, and provision grounds.

A gentleman in this parish has turned his attention to keeping bees, the produce in honey and wax from a small patch of land, say quarter of an acre, well laid out with hives, &c., is well worth seeing, his greatest difficulty is to prevent the honey escaping from casks on the voyage to England: he realises about 150 *l.* per annum, with little or no outlay or expense. This plan of keeping bees might be continued at every five miles of distance through the island, without interfering with each other.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. A. Bell,*
Stipendiary Magistrate.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.
Governor's Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

Sir, Mandeville, 5 August 1858.

I have the honour of submitting to his Excellency the Governor the following report on the state of the parish of Manchester, for the half-year ending on 31st July last.

The coffee crop of last year was much below an average one, and the crop of pimento was nearly a complete failure, amounting to not more than one-fifth or one-sixth of the crop generally made in this parish. The coffee crop for the present year is expected considerably to exceed an average one, although in some places it has sustained injury from the continued drought, and in one portion of the parish in particular, the eastern district, a week or 10 days

days of further dry weather would do material injury, both to the quantity and quality of the produce. In the other districts the weather has lately been very favourable The pimento crop will be even worse than that of last year, while the very low price to which it has fallen will scarcely repay the expense of picking, and in many cases it will not be picked at all.

In former reports I have stated that this parish was more independent of imported labour than most of the other parishes, partly in consequence of the absence of sugar cultivation; but from various causes to be afterwards adverted to this has ceased to be the case, and a considerable supply of immigrants is at present much required to carry on the cultivation. I have personally observed that, during the last year, the cultivation of provision grounds has been carried to a much larger extent than I have ever before remarked; and as one instance among many, a very large number of new provision grounds have been opened up during the present year, on the property on which I reside. The continuous labour on these grounds must of course diminish, to a very considerable extent, the number of hired labourers, a large proportion of the ground provisions being raised for sale.

With reference to the want of labour in the parish, one of the most experienced, enterprising, and successful coffee proprietors in the island, who has both the means and the disposition to pay liberal wages for adequate labour, writes me in the following terms:—"In the early part of the year, and for the first time since I have been a planter, I had considerable difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of labour, even at much enhanced rates. The extent to which the negroes are now renting ruinate lands for provision cultivation, with the high rates of wages given during crop, by the sugar estates in the parish of Vere, and the large number who have recently removed into the back lands of Mile Gully, and bought or leased land for ginger cultivation, accounts fully for the absorption of our former labourers, but renders the cultivation of our own properties, without any immigration, a very serious matter."

If to these circumstances is added the immense drain on the population by recent epidemics, the necessity for a large amount of immigration is sufficiently made out, without reflecting any discredit on the negro population, who are certainly entitled to turn their labour to the best account; and if they find that the raising of provisions, ginger, or coffee on their own lands, pays them better than hiring themselves out as labourers, no one has any right to find fault with them.

The best disposed and most industrious portion of the labourers, are in these several ways gradually withdrawn from the labour market, and their places are either not supplied at all, or the void is filled up by the most indolent and worthless part of the population. It would be gross injustice to the negroes as a body, to ascribe the want of labour, as has been done by an influential portion of the public press in England, to an inherent love of idleness on their part, as no one who has seen a negro labouring in his provision grounds, but must acknowledge that his industry and perseverance in labour will fairly bear comparison with those of the most industrious peasants in any part of Europe, and there can be little doubt that if sufficient inducement were held out, he would labour with corresponding energy for others.

The number of convictions at the Assize Courts, since the period of my last report, amount in all to 10, one of which took place at the Assize Court in January, and the remaining nine, at the last court in May; but these fluctuations in the number of convictions afford no criterion as to the increase or decrease of crime, which can only be determined by taking comparatively long periods for comparison. Perjury still continues to exert its baneful influence in the trial of cases before the magistrates, and can only be effectually checked by investing these courts with a summary power of punishment.

The means of education are still very deficient, and it is to be hoped that the Legislature may soon be induced to sanction a similar measure to the one formerly brought forward by the Government, on this important subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Laidlaw.*

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.
Secretary to his Excellency the Governor,
Spanish Town.

Sir, Portland, July 1858.

As I have nothing of moment to add to my previous reports, and as considerable difference of opinion appears to exist as to the general condition of the labour market in this Island, I trust that a few remarks on the subject may not be unacceptable to his Excellency.

The complaint on the side of the planter is, that he is unable to procure labour at a remunerative price; hence the necessity for immigration. The complaint on behalf of the labourer is, that the planter refuses to pay adequate wages; hence his inability to procure labour.

A moment's reflection might convince both parties that they are right in fact, but wrong in imputing blame to each other. To prove this, one has only to start with certain postulates, and then to bring common sense aud human nature to test the question.

These postulates are, on the one hand:

1. That where the supply of labour exceeds the demand, wages will fall to the lowest rate on which a labourer can exist.

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2. That where the supply of labour is less than the demand, wages will rise to the highest rate an employer can afford to give.

3. That there is abundance of land in Jamaica, the fee-simple of which can be purchased for a few dollars an acre.

4. That we have a constant summer, and that clothes are only requisite for decency, and fuel for cooking.

5. That under such circumstances, should the labourer be dissatisfied with the rate of wages offered, he can fall back on the land for an easy subsistence.

6. That the number of persons assessed on land in 1838, at the termination of "the apprenticeship," amounted, in the parish of Portland (which may be taken as a guide) to 213; and in 1857, to 1,421; showing an increase of 1,208 in 19 years: equal to more than one freehold to each family, assuming five to a family, and the population of the parish to be 6,500.

7. On the other hand: that no one will abandon an undertaking in which he has invested a large and inconvertible amount of capital, so long as it can be conducted at a profit.

8. That if an employer can procure labour at a remunerative rate at his own door, he is not likely to send to distant countries to import it at a heavy cost.

9. That since the termination of the slave apprenticeship in 1838, 20 out of 23 sugar estates in the parish of Portland have been abandoned, and 200 out of 500 throughout the Island, involving a sacrifice of at least two millions sterling of invested capital, and the total ruin of the proprietors in all cases in which they had no other dependence.

10. That most of remaining proprietors, who possess capital, are willing to incur the cost of importing foreign labour.

Taking, therefore, into consideration the nature of our climate, the cheapness of land, the increase in the number of freeholds, the number of estates which have been abandoned, and the attendant sacrifice of capital, the natural conclusion is, that on the one hand the labourer has been dissatisfied with the rate of wages offered, and has become an independent settler; and that, on the other, the planter has offered the highest rate of wages he could afford to give, and that he has, in 200 out of 500 instances, abandoned his estate in consequence of being unable to procure remunerative labour.

Taking also into consideration that many of the remaining proprietors are willing to import labour from distant countries, at a heavy cost, the natural inference is, that the supply of labour at a remunerative price is less than demand, and that immigration is really required for the cultivation of many of the existing estates.

It may be said that there have been few applications for immigrants under the Act which has just been disallowed by the Queen in Council; but this, I think, is to be ascribed to the stringency of the Act as regards applicants, and not to indifference to immigration.

There is one element in the question for which the mother country is responsible, and which should not be lost sight of, as controlling the rate of wages, namely, that owing to the equalisation of the sugar duties, the Jamaica planter has been compelled to compete with slavery fed by the slave trade. It must also be remembered that he requires continuous labour for the effectual management of his estate, and that in the absence of both moral and physical pressure on the mass of our population, he cannot expect to procure it in a climate which of itself predisposes to indolence. He may have at one season as much labour as he requires; at another, perhaps an important one, he is unable to procure a hand. Here the servant virtually discharges the master, not the master the servant. "I am willing to oblige you," or "I can't oblige you," as the case may be, is the common reply of the labourer when asked to work.

As to the cry that free labour is cheaper than slave labour, this may be the case, when the supply of free labour exceeds the demand, and land cannot be purchased, as in Barbadoes; but it is not the case when it is less than the demand, and when land may be had for a mere trifle, as in Jamaica.

The question should be discussed without acrimony. The labourers have a right to do as they please; so have the planters; and it would be as unjust to say that the latter shall have no immigrants as to say that the former shall work for the rates of wages offered. These rates, competitive as they virtually are with the cost of slave labour, may not suit the Jamaica labourer with all his collateral advantages, but they would be a boon to those on whose lot they would be an improvement; and why should these be debarred from accepting them, leaving even the interests of the planter out of the question? Be it remembered, too, by philanthropists, that every free labourer who recedes from the cultivation of sugar, virtually makes in Cuba a vacancy for a slave. It is unfeigned humanity, therefore, a humanity that discards geographical limits, to enlist as much free labour as possible in the cultivation of the cane.

Whatever may be the course adopted with regard to immigration, the natives who have settled on their own freeholds should not be lost sight of. Should these be improved in their condition, with their families properly fed and clothed, receiving medical aid when ill, and the rudiments of useful instruction, the political purposes of existence have been attained, and we have a right to be satisfied; but should we find the contrary to be the case in any of all these points, then these social obligations should be indirectly enforced through sanitary and educational enactments.

In

In discussing the question between the planter and the labourer, I have referred to the condition of the labour market generally. In certain localities (such as Portland for instance), in which the abandonment of estates has been disproportionately extensive, a certain reaction has taken place, and capital more than labour is required; but even in these localities the people are not dependent on daily labour for their daily bread. Labour is not continuous, but in succession.

I have, &c.
A. G. Fyfe,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.
Government Secretary.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

Parish of Port Royal, 31 July 1858

SINCE my last report, at the close of January, the weather has been as follows:

February	18 days fair	10 days rain.
March	23 „	8 „
April	17 „	13 „
May	20 „	11 „
June	21 „	9 „
July	28 „	3 „
	127	54

The properties in the lower part of the parish are suffering severely from this great drought, but not so on the higher plantations, as many are of opinion they will benefit from it.

The crop is nearly down and shipped, but for want of water a considerable part has been dried in the pulp; the amount of crop throughout the parish must be far below an average.

The want of labour is much felt, few remaining on the estates, and these will not brook control. Unless measures are adopted to secure a further white population (for they are rapidly leaving the island), it is greatly to be feared a contest will arise between parties for the ascendancy. Free ticket-of-leave people from home would answer well in the mountain districts, say, one or two married couples on each estate; their children would prove a valuable yeomanry, as evinced in the case of those sent to Australia, whose descendants have risen to eminence and wealth.

Crime is not on the increase, although idleness prevails to an extent which cannot fail to be productive of mischief.

H. Kent, Stipendiary Magistrate.

Sir, St. David, 9 August 1858.

IN obedience to the instructions requiring a half-yearly report of the state of this parish, I have the honour to state that the general good conduct of the people, and their obedience to the laws, have been highly satisfactory.

With regard to the important subject of crime, the records of our courts of justice clearly prove that there are fewer indictable offences and summary convictions in St. David than probably in any other parish in the island. The inference from this is no doubt in favour of the moral and social improvement of the people; but whatever may be the influence of these causes, I entertain a strong feeling that the absence of crime is in no slight degree owing to the fact that the authorities of St. David were prompt in rendering the Act 19 Vict. cap. 34, available, by enrolling under its provisions a rural constabulary.

In forming an estimate of the influence of this constabulary, and contrasting it with that of the police, it is easy to distinguish that the power of the former is essentially preventive. The rural constables are distributed over the parish; they are acquainted with the characters, habits, and circumstances of their neighbours, and are a constant warning to the evil-minded, and a support and security to the well-conducted; but the police, who do not exceed ten men, are concentrated in two or three stations, and are chiefly engaged in the execution and service of warrants and summonses. The surveillance of such a force must necessarily be limited, and however efficient it may be in other respects, the prevention of offences, especially those obeah practices, which are so prevalent in the rural districts, and which have been proved to be the sources of various vices and crimes, is fairly to be ascribed to the rural constabulary.

I regret to state that the prevalence of drought is extremely discouraging to the agricultural prospects of this parish, and serious apprehensions are entertained that ground provisions will be very scarce.

I have, &c.
D. Ewart, S. M.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.
Governor's Secretary, &c. &c. &c.
King's House.

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CONVICTIONS at PETTY SESSIONS in the Parish of *St. David*, for the Quarters ending 28th March and 28th June 1858.

		MALE.	FEMALE.	TOTAL.
Petty thefts		2	1	3
Trespass, furtive		1	1	2
Trespass, common		1	-	1
Assaults on police and other officers		—	—	—
Assaults on women and children		—	—	—
Assaults, common		2	2	4
Cruelty to animals		—	—	—
Breach of peace		—	—	—
Breach of contract		—	—	—
Embezzlement		—	—	—
Offences against	Pound law	—	—	—
	Highway Act	—	—	—
	Towns and Communities Act	1	5	6
	Vagrancy Act	1	-	1
	Penal Servitude Act	—	—	—
	Masters' and Servants' Act	1	-	1
	Hawkers' and Pedlars' Act	—	—	—
	Tradesman's Act	—	—	—
	Merchant Seaman's Acts—British	—	—	—
	" " Jamaica	—	—	—
	&c. &c. &c.	—	—	—
Sentences, on plea of guilty, under 19 Vict. c. 22		—	—	—
TOTAL		9	9	18

St. David, 9 August 1858.

D. Ewart,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

RETURN of INDICTMENTS, and of the TRIALS and VERDICTS thereon, at the Circuit Court for the Parish of *St. David*, held at *Easington*, on the 1st day of March and 5th day of July 1858.

OFFENCES.	Number of Indictments.	True Bills.	Bills Ignored.	Verdicts. Guilty.	Verdicts. Not Guilty.	REMARKS.
Attempt to murder	1	1	-	-	1	
Killing cattle with intent to steal carcase	2	2	-	-	2	
Rape	1	1	-	1	—	
Receiving money under false pretences	1	1	-	-	1	
Obeah	1	1	-	-	1	
Shopbreaking	2	2	-	2	—	
Larceny	4	4	-	3	1	
Ass stealing	1	1	-	-	1	
Malicious cutting	1	1	-	1	-	Of common assault.
	14	14	-	7	7	

St. David, 9 August 1858.

D. Ewart,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

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Sir, Spanish Town, 22 July 1858.

Beyond the almost total failure of the May rains through the south of the island, and their only partial fall in the north, there is nothing to notice in this half-year's report respecting the agricultural condition of the district. The insufficiency of herbage in the Salt-pond plains for cattle, but more particularly for sheep-feeding, will render the season calamitous.

The ineffectiveness of the present provision for the poor, not so much from deficiency of means, as defectiveness of system, has suggested the necessity of overseers to be appointed as in England, under the 43d of Elizabeth. With us, as the law anciently stood in the mother country, the churchwardens, in distributing the alms-givings from the weekly offertory, became officially the overseers of the poor. With the poor-rate assessments of England came the addition of overseers, in aid of churchwardens' duties. An overseer in each parish, under the control and superintendence of those officers, paid by a commission on distributions, would be a saving compared with the present irregular and undefined system. Much advantage in effectiveness and punctuality would be secured by a quarterly return of disbursements to the Executive Committee, audited and certified in quarterly vestries. It would assimilate this relation, with others of the dependence of the parochial, on the public treasury, in which it is required to account duly for transactions.

Some noticeable instances of parents deserted in age and infirmity by their children, while well able to keep them from a resort to public charity, have made apparent the want of the English enactment for compelling allowances. The parish of St. Catherine can, at this moment, show an instance of an aged and hitherto a well-doing and much-respected female, who had been induced to make over her property, a comfortable business freehold, to her son, thrust out of house and home after personal violence inflicted by the son's wife. Under pretence of feuds and incompatibility of temper, she has been abandoned to parochial benevolence. The family wants are those through which Providence stimulates men to prudence and forethought. The best moraliser is parental care and filial duty. The announcement that these are claims which no occurrences can diminish in fulness and sufficiency, and that they are fixed by law, would go far to check a great deal of prevalent heartlessness and indifference. In every case in which the family relation is neglected, and a party becomes thrown on parochial bounty, the overseer of the poor should be required officially to prosecute, as in England, an appeal for compulsory allowance before the magistrates in petty session.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Richard Hill,*
Stipendiary Magistrate, St. Catherine's.

Hugh Williams Austin, Esq.

RETURN of Convictions for the Precinct of *St. Catherine,* from the March Circuit Court, 1858, to the July Circuit Court, 1858.

OFFENCES.	St. Catherine.			St. John.			St. Dorothy.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Assaults on women and children	6	1	7	5	–	5	–	–	–
Assaults	14	11	25	1	1	2	7	3	10
Furtive trespasses	4	–	4	2	–	2	3	1	4
Trespasses	–	–	–	–	3	3	1	–	1
Malicious injuries to property	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Offences against: Towns and Communities Act	21	20	41	5	5	10	17	6	23
Offences against: Vagrant Act	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Offences against: Pound Act	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Offences against: Rum Law	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Offences against: Penal Servitude Act	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Petty thefts	9	–	10	6	–	6	3	–	3
Sentences, on plea of guilty, under 20th Vict.	2	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–
Masters' and Servants' Act	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Rescuing levy from collector of petty debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1
	62	33	95	19	9	28	32	11	43

Francis R. Lynch, Clerk of the Peace.

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RETURN of INDICTMENTS, and of the TRIALS and VERDICTS thereon, at the Circuit Court for the Precinct of *St. Catherine*, held for July 1858, at *Spanish Town*.

OFFENCES.	Number of Indictments.	True Bills.	Bills Ignored.	Verdicts.		Remarks.	Untried.
				Guilty.	Not Guilty.		
Larcenies - - -	12	12	- -	9	2	- - -	1
Cutting and wounding -	4	4	- -	1	3	—	-
Assault with intent to commit rape - - -	2	2	- -	2	-	—	-
Aggravated assaults - -	1	1	- -	-	-	Noli prosequi entered.	1
Shooting with intent to do some grievous bodily harm	1	- -	1	-	-	—	-
Common assaults - -	1	1	- -	1	-	—	-
Killing a heifer, with intent to steal the carcase -	1	1	- -	1	-	—	-
	22	21	1	14	5	- - -	2

Francis R. Lynch, Clerk of the Peace.

Half-yearly REPORT of the Moral, Social, and Agricultural Progress of *Clarendon*, the same being for the half-year ended 30th June 1858.

As regards morality, the best report I can make is that morals may not have retrograded; improvement there is certainly none, and I do not at present see how any is to come about until there is a complete change in the country. The clergy are for the most part anything but active, and seem to think that to read the morning service and preach one sermon a week is all they have to do. As for going amongst and knowing their people, they do not, and it is for this reason that dissenters have taken so firm a hold in the country.

It is, however, but fair to the clergy of the Church of England to say that, in a straggling mountainous parish like Clarendon, there are few men who are physically able to do the work expected of them satisfactorily. They have also to contend against the influence of many of the wealthy men in high positions, who notoriously set the worst of examples. I trust the rising planters may do better, and I think there is some appearance of it. The seasons for the taking off of last crop were all that could be desired, and with continuous labour there is no doubt but what cultivation would be shortly much extended. The present prices are satisfactory, with every appearance of a continuance.

I am sorry to say that labour is very irregular, and no amount of money nor punctuality of payment will command it when required. The labour market in this parish has been much disturbed by certain lectures delivered by an independent minister, Mr.——, assisted by a Mr.——, editor of the "——" newspaper.

In the neighbouring parish, ——, previously a magistrate, but long since broke for gross misconduct, has been doing all he can to make the people hold out against the planters, telling them amongst other things that emigrants are being brought here at the people's expense to take the bread out of their mouths.

At a large meeting held the other day it was agreed that each labourer should subscribe 6 *d.* a month, to be handed to——, as a small acknowledgment from the people of the value of his services in their cause, and they were also to subscribe to the "Watchman" newspaper. The mischief caused by these lectures and meetings in a country so much under-populated as this is enormous.

No one for one moment can nor ought to object to the labourer who, having accumulated a little money, chooses to buy his small sugar or coffee plantation, and work on his own ground in preference to working on the estates. What the planters ask is, "As the labouring population leave the estates, allow us to replace them at our own expense with foreign immigrants."

The Chinese answer well as far as they go, but as they have no females amongst them, and do not amalgamate with the creoles it is quite clear that in a short time they must die out, and so become expensive immigrants.

The

The Calcutta coolies worked well, but most of them returned to India, and then caused a heavy outlay of money without any eventual increase to the labouring population.

Of all the immigrants I have seen, the Africans seem best suited to the country; they stand the climate well, and soon make friends with the resident negroes.

It seems to me very doubtful whether the producers of sugar and coffee on a small scale add to the actual prosperity of the country. I know that in this parish, where small settlers flourish particularly, and are every day increasing, that the storekeepers do not now take half as much money weekly as they did when the estates were going on to the full extent, and there were then very few small settlers.

(signed) *H. Crew*,
Stipendiary Justice.

Bellair Dry Harbour, Jamaica,
September 1858.

Sir,

The report and enclosures which I have now the honour to transmit have been delayed somewhat beyond the prescribed period, in consequence of my having lost a diary in which such data as usually form the basis of my reports, were recorded; and although in the present instance it contained little worth referring to, yet I was desirous to consult it.

Since my last communication, nothing has occurred worthy of being obtruded on his Excellency's attention.

The offences recorded and proclaimed are not of a tint or character calculated to provoke comment, whilst their decrease do not justify congratulation.

Public institutions, whether sanitary, educational, or reformatory, do not appear to have increased under legislative patronage or local bounty; whilst instances of energy in their formation, and generosity in their support, are less visible, and, I think, less frequent than formerly.

During the last four months we have suffered from an almost continuous drought. As a consequence, every product, either for export or home consumption, has been injured. The sugar planters' estimate cannot be realised; pimento has proved a total failure; and coffee will not reach its usual average. At this date last year 10,000 *l.* had been distributed among the labouring population occupied in picking pimento. Their provision grounds at present yield but a scanty supply; hence I fear this double pressure may force upon them the consumption of unwholesome food; consequences need not be predicted; whilst results may once more supply a fearful commentary on our total absence of sanitary resources and prudent preparation.

The much lamented death of Dr. Johnstone has produced great despondence. He possessed talent, skill, and energy, with firmness to encounter difficulties, and a heart to ameliorate misfortunes. There remains now a surface exceeding the computed extent of Barbadoes to be traversed by three qualified practitioners, and a population said to exceed 25,000 to be visited. Two of these gentlemen are physically unequal to the endurance which the ordinary claims of such a population demand, whilst in seasons of epidemic prevalence it would prove overwhelming. Dr. Johnstone felt more than once the weight of these responsibilities. Our minds were turned to remedial measures, and our suggestions may be found briefly commented upon in a pamphlet, edited by the Rev. B. Kingdom, based on a former report of mine, addressed to, and warmly approved of by, his Excellency Sir Henry Barkly.

The parish, I am rejoiced to say, is perfectly tranquil, whilst at the same time a feeling of mutual goodwill obviously exists between all classes.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. A. Dillon*,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

To H. W. Austin, Esq.
Governor's Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

Your Excellency,

Gayle P. O. Jamaica, 1 July 1858.

I have the honour to transmit to you my half-yearly agricultural report. It gives me pleasure to observe that I have never, during my long sojourn in Jamaica, seen the sugar estates and pens in my district looking in a more flourishing condition, and the planters generally anticipate good returns.

The labourers are, or seem to be, working well and contentedly at the usual rate of wages, 1*s.* per diem. It is a great injustice to our native population to attribute all the shortcomings in the labour market to their "idleness and laziness." It would be more just, as well as more truthful, to admit that many of our heretofore labourers are quite independent of estates work, having small comfortable farms of their own, and many of them cultivating canes and making sugar of a very excellent quality, for which they obtain a good price from storekeepers and private families, and there is no doubt that in time they will make sufficient to export;

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export; besides all this, Jamaica in her best days was but thinly populated, and the population has been fearfully decreased by those fatal scourges, cholera and small-pox. The sanitary regulations of the island generally are lamentably deficient; and it is a very general opinion that our island legislators would show more wisdom in trying to preserve the lives of our native peasantry by the establishment of district medical dispensaries than in making such an outcry for immigration.

There is little to be said on educational progress; the schools are so few and far between that very few of the people have the opportunity of enlightening their children. This is much to be regretted, for ignorance is too frequently the forerunner of vice. The few schools there are are well attended, and the crowded state of all the churches and chapels augurs very favourably of the people's desire for moral improvement; and if the local government would take steps to educate the younger portion, I have little doubt that knowledge would tend greatly to suppress crime.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Walsh*,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

To his Excellency Charles H. Darling, Esq.
Governor of Jamaica, &c. &c. &c.
King's House.

Parish of Trelawny, Falmouth,
27 July 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the weather in this parish has been highly propitious for the gathering of the crops, and the manufacture of the products.

The majority of the managers of estates having now finished the operations for 1857 and 1858, are commencing with extended preparations for the ensuing year. As I anticipated in a former report, there has been a considerable falling off from the estimates formed at the early portion of the year; yet as this is mainly attributable to the long continued drought, the planters generally were prepared for the result, and with their usual characteristic buoyancy look forward to a more fruitful season. The dissatisfaction felt and generally expressed here, with respect to the disallowance by the Home Government of the late Immigration Bill, is very marked, and a strong desire appears to pervade all parties, that such an Act may be framed during the ensuing session of the Honourable House of Assembly, as will meet the evident exigencies of the case, and the approval of Her Majesty's Government, although in many quarters of the parish the scarcity of labour is not severely felt, yet it is evident to any person of observation, that many districts do suffer greatly from this cause; and I am convinced in my own opinion that the general extension of cultivation is kept in continual check by the fear, however well or ill founded, of a probable failure in the uninterrupted supply of labour.

It has always been a pleasing duty to me, when I can report favourably on the quiet and orderly conduct of the majority of the peasantry of this extensive parish, yet in many instances I regret to state I see no improvement in their moral or religious habits. My daily observations, and the disgusting records of our Petty Courts, too plainly point out the fact, that a large portion of our population have not availed themselves of the many opportunities offered to them, nor benefited by the devoted zeal of those ministers, the greatest portion of whose lives have been spent in the most assiduous and self-sacrificing efforts for their moral improvement. This melancholy state of things is most conspicuous in the towns, perhaps because there it is more concentrated and observable. It is lamentable to observe the number of idle and profligate men, women, and children, who infest the streets by day, and prowl along its alleys by night, many of the parents of these children being themselves idle characters, have neither the inclination or the means to give their families the plainest rudiments of education or support; hence we see the streets and bye-lanes overrun by a squalid and diseased progeny, whose future history is but too painfully before us.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Daniel W. Kelly*,
Stipendiary Magistrate.

Hugh Wm. Austin, Esq.
Governor's Secretary, &c. &c.
Spanish Town.

— No. 26. —

No. 26.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart. M.P.
8 November 1858.

(No. 139.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

King's House, 8 November 1858.
(Received, 2 Dec. 1858.)

Sir,

I PERCEIVE that a letter addressed by the Governor of Barbados to Mr. Charles Tuppan, of New York, upon the state of the West Indies, has been published

published in the "Anti-Slavery Reporter," and circulated in some of the Colonial newspapers.

2. I think it right, therefore, to state that Mr. Tuppan visited this island in the early part of the present year, and brought me a letter of introduction from Governor Hincks. I declined complying with Mr. Tuppan's wish that I should give him on paper my views and opinions upon the present state of Jamaica; but I subsequently undertook to answer a few specific inquiries upon condition that the replies were not to be published with my name attached to them.

3. I have not had an opportunity of seeing Mr. Tuppan's publication, but I perceive by the newspaper extracts of it, that it contains a reference to Jamaica. I therefore do myself the honour to enclose a copy of the queries referred to, with my answers attached, in order that you may be aware of the extent to which that gentleman's observations may be founded upon the authority of my statements.

Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure in No. 26.

Encl. in No. 26.

1. What is the religious condition of the island, compared with that during slavery?

2. What is the state of education now, compared with what it was under slavery?

3. Is there less crime now than formerly?

1, 2, and 3. No comparison, I conceive, fairly lies between the state of the population as to religion, education, and crime, during the period of slavery, and their present condition, in these respects.

The power which the slave owner possessed, both directly and influentially, could be, and was, extensively exercised to prevent, at his pleasure, either religious teaching, secular instruction, or intellectual culture of any description being imparted to the mass of the slave population; and that power was equally effective for the punishment of such offences as, according to his own moral code, each individual owner thought fit to regard in the light of crime.

The number of persons attending public worship, the number of children passing through the schools, the number of churches and chapels, and of school buildings, is vastly greater than they were previously to emancipation; and as all detected offences are now investigated before the courts of justice of higher or lower degree, so the extent of crime brought to public notice, and placed on the Government records, is far greater than formerly.

Serious crime is admitted to be rare.

For the most part it springs from the want of control over the sensual passions, and the disregard of those ties, parental and marital, whose existence is incompatible with domestic slavery, and the general observance of which the teaching of the religious and moral guides of the emancipated people, has not yet succeeded in effectually inculcating.

It has been stated upon authority, that in a recent year, the summary convictions by the magistrates for minor offences, which may be classed generally as petty thefts, furtive trespasses, common trespasses, assaults, misdemeanors against order and decency, vagrancies, breach of contract, were (estimated upon the recorded statistics in this regard of sixteen out of twenty-two parishes) at the rate of six thousand and seven hundred (6,700) a year, for a population little short of four hundred thousand (400,000).

4. Is there greater security of person and property now, than there was in the state of slavery?

4. There are, no doubt, more assaults, thefts, trespasses, &c., and other offences, the natural offspring of personal liberty suddenly emancipated from an autocratic power of repression, and not sufficiently controlled by religious influences and a respect for laws, divine and human. But person and property are safe from the murdering weapon, the destroying brand, and other attendant horrors of servile insurrection, a calamity of which ancient slave-holding Jamaica has more than once had awful experience.

JAMAICA.

5. Do the labourers usually work by the day, or job, or both? and how many hours constitute a day's work?

5. Upon both systems, in different parts of the island, and according to the nature of the work to be performed: the number of hours may occasionally be made more or less by agreement, with reference to the character of the work and the rate of wages, but eight hours is, I apprehend, the general rule.

6. Is emancipation generally acknowledged to be a blessing? And if not, by what class or classes is it considered otherwise?

6. No doubt. By the emancipated population it is impossible to suppose it should be otherwise regarded; the proprietary into whose hands a large proportion of the landed estates have now passed; those engaged in the management of properties belonging to absentee proprietors, and many of the former proprietors who are still in possession, although their incomes have been materially diminished by the results of emancipation (in several instances in conjunction with other causes), would not, I am convinced, exchange the present system for one of slavery. There may be a few who always entertained the conviction that that system, while existing under the decree of Providence, was also best adapted to the physical and moral nature of the African; and with some of whom, perhaps, this conviction has been insensibly strengthened by the total ruin of themselves and families which the abolition of the system contributed to produce, who must find it difficult to regard emancipation as a general blessing; but such a result was inevitable. No long course of wrong can, in this world's imperfect economy, be redressed by a great act of justice without making victims of many to whom no real responsibility for the origination or continuance of that wrong attached.

7. Has there been since emancipation any manifestation of vengeful feelings on the part of the emancipated?

7. None whatever. A better understanding between employers and labourers might certainly exist with great advantage to the interests of both classes, and to the island, as a valuable producing dependency of Great Britain; but there were mistakes committed on the part of both classes as well as by the Government, in initiating the new state of things 20 years ago.

Pestilence ravaging the country and destroying the population in more forms than one; great occasional depreciation of the value of the staples, annihilating the means and the credit of the proprietary; political embroilments, fomenting misunderstanding between classes, and obstructing the introduction of labour and population from external sources; and not a little, as I strongly believe, the lamentable fact, that much of the teaching which the people have received was addressed to the sense rather than to the heart and understanding, and was calculated to instruct them more as to their rights and privileges than their duties and obligations, have since retarded the progress of the colony towards recovery, both socially and economically.

It is now, I hope, in a course of better promise, and undoubtedly offers advantages of every description to the industry and enterprise of all to whom its lowland climate (for that of its upland is as fine as any in the world) may not prove unsuitable.

8. On the whole, have they been benefited by emancipation?

8. From the short conversation I have had the pleasure of holding with Mr. Tuppan, I have learnt that he understands and appreciates British constitutional freedom. He knows, too, what domestic slavery is. It existed in Jamaica in by no means a very mitigated form, and I can best answer his last inquiry by observing that in a case where the former state has been substituted for the latter, as affecting a whole population there cannot be a doubt that the body social must have largely benefited, while those individual members of it alone have suffered who have not yet learned to use their freedom as not abusing it.

— No. 27. —

No. 27.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart. M.P. 10 Nov. 1858.

(No. 142.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

King's House, 10 November 1858.
(Received, 16 December 1858.)

Sir,

WITH reference to that part of your Despatch, No. 36, of the 7th ultimo, which relates to hospital accommodation and medical attendance for immigrants, I beg to assure you that I entertain no doubt that I shall find the Legislature disposed and anxious to make ample provision to secure that object in any law which may be passed during the present Session.

2. I would avail myself of the opportunity of explaining that, when I requested to be favoured with some intimation of what Her Majesty's Government considered requisite in regard to hospitals for the special use of immigrants, I was aware that such establishments existed in Demerara; and the printed correspondence to which you refer down to the year 1850, is familiar to me.

3. In this Colony, however, the coolies, while under contract, had received medical attendance upon the estates to which they were severally attached. Your predecessor had moreover in his Despatch, No. 17,* of 16th April 1858, and his letter of the same date, strongly impressed upon me that the surest guide to legislation which would be approved by Her Majesty's Government, would be found in the Duke of Newcastle's draft model Ordinance, and that it would be desirable to adhere to this, without reference to the course adopted in other Colonies.

* Page 280.

4. No provision existing in that draft for the establishment of hospitals, I thought my safest course would be to inquire what might be the precise views entertained upon the subject at the present moment by Her Majesty's Government; and I beg now respectfully to express my thanks for the communication I have had the honour to receive from you in reply to that inquiry.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

— No. 28. —

No. 28.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M.P. 26 Nov. 1858.

(No. 150.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

King's House, 26 November 1858.
(Received, 16 December 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a duly authenticated copy of "An Act to authorise the indenturing for purposes of industrial service persons condemned as forfeited to Her Majesty under the statutes for the abolition of the slave trade in certain cases, and to remove doubts as to the rights of such persons," to which I gave my assent this day.

No. 4237. *Vide* Appendix, No. 14. page 536.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

— No. 29. —

No. 29.
Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart. M.P. 26 Nov. 1858.

(No. 152.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

King's House, 26 November 1858.
(Received, 16 December 1858.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 117, 15 April 1859, p. 560.)

I HAVE the honour to report that I have this day assented to Bills for regulating immigration, which I trust will meet with the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

2. I have the honour to transmit to you authenticated manuscript copies of these enactments, which I have thought it desirable to forward with as little delay

Nos. 4238, 4239, and 4240. *Vide* Appendix, pages 537. 555. 556.

JAMAICA.

delay as possible. As the mail will be immediately closed, it is not in my power to do more than state briefly the more important of the provisions they contain, viz.:

The contract of an Indian labourer with a first employer has only a duration of two years.

During the third year the labourer must be under indenture, but to an employer of his own selection.

For the fourth and fifth years he must be under indenture, or make a payment at the rate of 2 *l.* 10 *s.* per annum.

He will acquire his right to a certificate of industrial residence by indentured service for five years, or at the end of the third and fourth years respectively, if he shall have made the required money payments.

His right to a back passage at the public expense does not arise until the expiration of ten years' residence; but during the last five years of that period he is left entirely his own master.

The return passages are guaranteed upon the general revenue.

The provision that ten acres of land may be given in commutation of back passages is re-enacted; but it is declared that it cannot come into effect unless and until Her Majesty's Government shall sanction the principle.

Any number of sub-agents may be appointed: they are also declared to be inspectors of immigrants, and the remuneration provided, as I think, ample, being at a rate not exceeding 6 *s.* per annum for each immigrant.

The Governor has full power to insist upon any regulations he may think necessary for the lodging, medicine, and medical care of immigrants.

3. Chinese are excluded from the operation of the Act. Should Her Majesty's Government hereafter sanction emigration from China at the public expense, a special Act will be applied for to the Legislature. Immigration from China at the expense of private individuals has, however, been provided for by a separate Act to meet the contingency of Her Majesty's Government extending permission for that purpose to Jamaica, before the termination of the year 1859.

4. The funds to provide advances for future immigration, are established by a separate enactment, which is more complete for the purpose than the disallowed law of 1857.

The amount to be borrowed in any one year may, it is true, not exceed 50,000 *l.*, and the total amount of the loan must never exceed, at any time, 150,000 *l.*; but, subject to these limitations, the new Act affords permanent means of gradually and continuously increasing the labouring population, if the demands of the employers of labour should render such a course desirable, and as its provisions are applicable to emigrants from every country which Her Majesty's Government may sanction as a source whence labour may be obtained, it may be regarded, I think, as constituting a valuable addition to the statute book of the Colony.

5. These Acts were passed without a division, one member only, an African gentleman born in Jamaica, "entering a debate" upon the third reading of the "Immigration Act, 1858;" and although the Legislature is now in the third week of its sittings, no petition against the measure has been presented.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

— No. 30. —

No. 30. Governor Darling to the Right Hon. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart. M.P.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

King's House, 8 December 1858.

Sir, (Received, 5 January 1858.)

I DO myself the honour to enclose the copy of a letter marked "private," which I addressed in the month of July last, to the Governor General of Canada, on the subject of the migration from Canada to this island of the coloured population, together with a copy of the note in reply, with which Sir Edmund Head has been so good as to favour me, and I beg to make the inquiry whether Her Majesty's Government entertain any objection to the prosecution of a design for inducing some of the people referred to, to remove to Jamaica.

No. 1. 27th July 1858.

No. 2. 5th October 1858.

* * * * * *

I have, &c.

(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 30.

Encl. 1, in No. 30.

(Extract.)

King's House, 27 July 1858.

THE object which Mr. ——— has in view is one which I am very anxious to promote, and have already, indeed, done something to advance when formerly a resident in this island; and my purpose in now writing to you is to inquire whether your Government entertain any objection to our taking steps for enconraging the removal of a part of the coloured population.

Enclosure 2, in No. 30.

Encl. 2, in No. 30.

(Extract.)

Toronto, Canada W., 5 October 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of July 27. The delay which has occurred in answering it was owing partly to the fact that I was at Quebec when it arrived, and I had to wait until I returned to Toronto, in order to obtain the necessary information.

In the first place, I apprehend that there would be no objection to the voluntary emigration of as many negroes as could be persuaded to go.

The feeling is rather that we should be glad to get rid of them.

If the scheme, however, is finally adopted, there ought to be formal minutes or notice in the books of the Executive Council, and there would be no difficulty in getting this done.

I shall be anxious to aid in every way, and quite ready to give advice or information.

Yours, &c.

His Excellency C. H. Darling, Governor of Jamaica.

(signed) *Edmund Head.*

JAMAICA.

— No. 31. —

No. 31.
Governor Darling to the Right hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M.P.
31 January 1859.

(No. 23.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Darling* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart., M.P.

King's House, 31 January 1859.
(Received, 4 March 1859.)

Sir,

THE Rev. John Clark, a missionary of the Baptist persuasion, having forwarded to me a memorial against the Immigration Laws of last Session, containing the following statement, viz., "That the results of former immigrations have been most fatal to the immigrants, not less than 50 per cent. of the coolies imported in 1846-7 having died shortly after their arrival, and that there is every reason to fear that later importations were equally disastrous, while many had to suffer a fearful amount of misery from poverty, sickness, and bereavements." A correspondence, of which I have the honour to enclose a copy, ensued.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.

2. I have thought it desirable to put you in possession of the correspondence, as affording an instance of the misapprehension of facts under which memorials against public measures are sometimes framed, and because it seems to show satisfactorily that the opposition which my belief in the expediency of immigration has evoked, does not extend to other questions of administration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

Encl. 1, in No. 31.

Enclosure 1, in No. 31.

(No. 92.)

Government Secretary's Office, King's House,
20 January 1859.

Sir,

HAVING laid before the Governor your letter of the 18th instant, I am instructed by his Excellency to enclose for your information a copy of a return which has been furnished by the Agent General of Immigration, from which you will perceive that the total number of coolies introduced into this island from 1845 to date has been 4,551, of these, 1,463 have returned to India, and 1,491 have received commutation in lieu thereof, leaving 1,597 unaccounted for.

1,463
1,491
2,954

When it is taken into consideration that upwards of one-tenth of the entire native population were swept off by the two visitations of cholera, it is more than probable that the coolies suffered in even a greater degree.

However, assuming that the mortality was only in an equal ratio, it would leave about 1,100, or less than one-fourth, who have died during their acclimatisation, or from other natural causes, during a period of 13 years.

Several hundreds of coolies also emigrated to Panama, induced by the high rate of wages which were offered them on the railway there, and there are no means of knowing whether they have returned or not.

You will also not fail to observe that, by Mr. Ewart's return, there were 355 children born in Jamaica, a fact which must not be lost sight of when dealing with the question of immigration from India.

In conclusion, I am to add that his Excellency will delay transmitting your memorial against the Immigration Act until his Excellency hears further from you on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Government Secretary.

The Rev. John Clark,
Brown's Town.

YEARS.	Total No. of Coolies introduced into Jamaica.	Number returned to India.		Number who have taken the Commutation Money.		Number of Coolies unaccounted for.	REMARKS.
		Adults.	Children born in Jamaica.	Adults.	Children born in Jamaica.		
1845	261	—	—	—	—	—	
1846	1,851	—	—	—	—	—	
1847	2,439	—	—	—	—	—	Sailed from England, as stated in my report, dated 24th July last.
1851	- -	2	—	—	—	—	
1852	- -	2					
1853	- -	1,030	137	623	41	—	
1854	- -	348	81	412	30	—	
1855	- -	- -	- -	438	21	—	
1858	- -	81	45	18	—	—	
TOTALS	4,551	1,463	263	1,491	92	1,597	

Of the 263 children born in Jamaica and returned to India, 81 were infants under one year of age as stated in the nominal list or description rolls of coolies placed on board the "Ostrich," "Harkaway," "Edward Wm. Jardine," "Glonana," and "Sir George Pollock."

Immigration Office, 21 August 1858. (signed) *D. Ewart*, A. G. I.

Enclosure 2, in No. 31.

Encl. 2, in No. 31.

Sir, Brown's Town, 25 January 1859.

ALLOW me, through you, to return my sincere thanks to his Excellency the Governor for his kindness in favouring me with a copy of the return of the Agent General of Immigration of the number of coolies imported, returned, missing, &c., proving that the statement contained in the memorial which I had the honour of forwarding to his Excellence for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary for the Colonial Department, is incorrect as regards the mortality which prevailed amongst the immigrants.

As the memorialists could have no wish to misrepresent or exaggerate the truth, which in itself is sufficiently appalling, may I beg the favour of his Excellency retaining or returning the document.

Allow me to take this opportunity of stating that it has been with great reluctance myself and some others have sought the disallowance of a measure sanctioned by his Excellency, and nothing but the fear (founded on past experience) that the law cannot be carried out without causing great suffering, and perhaps death, to a large number of our fellow-men, and, in our humble opinion, prove injurious rather than beneficial to the welfare of the island, could have justified our pursuing a course which may have the appearance of hostility to his Excellency's Government, which, I think I can truly say for many others as well as myself, has in every other respect commanded our admiration and gratitude.

Earnestly praying that God would mercifully give his Excellency health and strength for the discharge of his important duties, and bless his Government to the social, moral, and religious prosperity of all classes of the community,

I have, &c.

To Hugh W. Austin, Esq. (signed) *John Clark*.
&c. &c. &c.

JAMAICA.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Darling.
27 August 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. *H. Labouchere* to Governor *Darling*.

(No. 16.)

Sir, Downing-street, 27 August 1857.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th June, No. 136,* I transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at the Cape de Verd Islands, in which he reports that the recent mortality from small-pox and other causes had destroyed all prospect of emigration from that quarter; and further, that the Portuguese Government were about to pass a law which he considered would be tantamount to a prohibition of emigration.

* *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 252.

27 July 1851. Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere*.

Encl. in No. 1.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Sir, Emigration Office, 15 August 1857.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I have the honour to enclose, for transmission to the Governor of Jamaica, the copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Consul in the Cape de Verd Islands, in which he reports that the recent mortality from small-pox and other causes has destroyed all prospect of emigration from that quarter. He adds, that the Portuguese Government are about to pass a law which he considers will be tantamount to the entire prohibition of emigration.

27 July. Sub-Enclosure.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers*.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 1.

British Consulate, St. Vincent, Cape de Verds,
Sir, 27 July 1857.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 25,571, dated 12 May ult., wherein I am informed that Messrs Visgers and Millers had demanded a rate of 80 dollars per adult as a bounty for their conveyance to Jamaica; that the Commissioners deemed this claim inadmissible, and that the project of sending labourers to Jamaica from these islands is now abandoned.

With regard to emigration from these islands, I beg to inform you that the two last shipments of labourers from them took place in May; but, in consequence of the great mortality during last year, the population is so very much thinned, that I believe there will be no further emigration from hence.

The small-pox has, within the last two months, committed great ravages in the island of St. Jago. The most populous of the group, also, in the islands of Maio, St. Vincent, St. Antonio, and St. Nicholas, have each had some cases.

I am informed that a new law is about to be passed in Portugal which will place so many obstacles in the way of emigration from Portuguese dominions to foreign settlements as will be tantamount to a prohibition of it.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thomas Miller*,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

S. Walcott, Esq., &c. &c. &c.
Secretary Government Emigration Board,
Park-street, Westminster.

— No. 2. —

(No. 52.)

No. 2.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Darling.
23 December 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 23 December 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 31,* of the 31st October, enclosing the form of indenture which I requested you to forward, under which the African children captured by Her Majesty's sloop "Arab" were apprenticed.

* Page 200.

The form appears to be unobjectionable. Nothing, however, is mentioned respecting the term for which the boys were indentured; and as the Act quoted in the indenture provides (with evident reference to the age of 21) that boys below 16 years of age shall be apprenticed for "*five years* at the least," it would seem probable that they were bound till the age of 21.

14 Vict. c. 30.

This engagement, though sanctioned it would seem by the existing law of Jamaica, is longer than would be consistent with the more recent policy of the Home Government; and if the importation of liberated Africans is to go on, I should wish you to procure the passing of a law authorising the Immigration Agent to allot such immigrants at his discretion for three years, or until the age of 18, but not for any longer period.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 3. —

(No. 58.)

No. 3.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Darling.
15 January 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 January 1858.

I RECEIVED your Despatch No. 21† of 25th of September, conveying the desire of the Legislature of Jamaica that the portion of the guaranteed loan now in the hands of the Emigration Commissioners should be applied to purposes of immigration.

† Page 199.

I forwarded your Despatch to the Emigration Commissioners, and I transmit to you a copy of their report, together with a copy of the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch to the Governor of British Guiana and of the model immigration law therein referred to. ‡

Enclosure 1. 9 December 1857

‡ *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 1.

I concur in the opinion expressed by the Commissioners as to the inexpediency of the appointment (which is suggested by the Legislature) of an agent to be paid by the colony for the purpose of inspecting the coolies collected by the Government Immigration Agent.

I also consider it to be indispensable that a sum adequate to defray the back passages of the coolies should be secured by law upon a fund of a sufficiently permanent nature to be specifically charged.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 3.

Encl. in No. 3.

Sir, Emigration Office, 9 December 1857.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 30th October, enclosing the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Jamaica respecting emigration.

2. Of that part of the guaranteed loan which was apportioned to Jamaica, between 5,000 *l.* and 6,000 *l.* are in our hands, and 50,000 *l.* remain to be raised.

3. The Jamaica Legislature are desirous that this money should be spent as soon as possible in coolie emigration, if the Secretary of State would consent to the appointment of an agent, at the expense of the colony, whose duty it should be to inspect the coolies collected by the Government Emigration Agent, Mr. Caird, and prohibit the shipment of those who were not, in his opinion, fit for agricultural labour. If this appointment is not permitted they wish to reconsider the question whether coolies should be imported at all.

4. We collect that the appointment of this officer is to be made in Jamaica; even, therefore, if his appointment were sanctioned, the necessary communication with the Colony would make it impossible that the emigration should have commenced during the present season, which ends on the 1st March. But we are unable to recommend that such an appointment should be permitted.

JAMAICA.

5. The Governor disclaims on the part of the Colony any desire to interfere with the proceedings of the Emigration Agent, or to secure indirectly for Jamaica the most eligible emigrants at the expense of other Colonies interested in the scheme. But a short consideration will show that these are the inevitable results of the proposal.

6. We will suppose that the Emigration Agent has collected 350 coolies, being the complement of a ship chartered for Jamaica, and that of these the Jamaica officer rejects thirty, who, though the least eligible of the number, are, in the opinion of the Government Emigration Agent, proper emigrants, else they would not have been brought forward at all. On this, two practical questions have to be settled: first, what is to become of these people who have been brought up, perhaps, some hundred miles by a selecting agent, who knows that according to the existing rules they are eligible for emigration? Next, since a heavy loss would accrue from despatching the ship without her complement of passengers, how are the places of the rejected coolies to be filled up?

7. It is evident, practically, that the families rejected will be sent to some other Colony, and that their places must be filled up by a superior class of emigrants intended originally for other destinations; and it is further evident, that unless the Government Emigration Agent lends himself to this very unfair mode of escaping his difficulties, continual collisions must occur between him and the officer appointed to superintend his proceeding on the part of Jamaica.

8. It appears to us, therefore, that the proposed appointment is wholly incompatible with the efficient working of the present system, and consequently that the question must be referred back to Jamaica.

9. As, however, the authorities in that Colony do not seem to be aware of the regulations under which coolie emigration is at present carried on, we would suggest that they should be informed, that the proportion of women at present required is the following:

In 1858-59	- - -	40 per cent. of the males.
- 1859-60	- - -	45 „ „
- 1860-61	- - -	50 „ „

10. The attention of the Government should also be drawn to the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch, No. 175, of 16th of January 1854, containing most important modifications (for the benefit of the planters), which have been made in the requirements of Government since the existing Jamaica immigration law was passed, and it might be desirable to add copies of the model law drawn up in this country on the basis of that Despatch, and of certain clauses, of which we annex a draft, calculated to meet certain further requirements of the Indian Government, and which, with that view, have been in substance adopted by the Legislature of St. Lucia.

Sub-Enclosure.

11. It should be pointed out, that no contribution must be required from the coolie towards his back passage, it being impossible to procure emigrants while such a contribution is demanded; and it is for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, whether the state of the finances of Jamaica renders it necessary that any special provision should be made for securing that return passages shall be given when due. On the last occasion they were given very tardily, and indeed not till the Imperial Government had guaranteed a loan for that purpose.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 3.

DRAFT of Clauses supplementary to the Model Immigration Ordinance.

IT shall be lawful for the Governor in Council, from time to time, to make regulations for allowing to Indian labourers such holidays, or days to be observed as religious festivals, as to him shall seem fit.

It shall be the duty of the Immigration Agent to collect and take possession of the property of any coolie immigrant who shall die in this Colony, and (with the sanction of the Governor) to deliver all such property to any person in the Colony who shall establish a right to the same; or, in the absence of any such person, to turn the said property into money, and pay the proceeds into the Colonial Treasury, in order that the same may be remitted to the person or persons in India, or elsewhere, who shall be entitled thereto.

It shall be lawful for the Governor to make all regulations necessary for giving effect to the provision of the last preceding clause, and any person contravening such regulations shall be liable, on conviction thereof before , to a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.*

The Immigration Agent shall board every ship arriving in the Colony with coolie immigrants, and shall ascertain and report to the Governor the number of immigrants embarked in her, the state of their health, the number of deaths which have occurred on the voyage, and whether the provisions of the charterparty, under which such immigrants have been conveyed from India have been performed, and the said Immigration Agent shall thereupon assign the said immigrants to planters who shall be ready to employ them, and till such assignment, shall provide them with proper and sufficient food and lodging: Provided always, that the wages payable to the said immigrants (subject to a reasonable deduction for medical attendance, lodging, and provision-grounds) shall be equal to the wages paid

to

to labourers not receiving gratis medical attendance, lodging, or provision-grounds; provided also, that in such allotment the wishes of the immigrants shall, as far as possible, be ascertained and attended to, and that in no case whatever shall any husband and wife, nor any parent and child be allotted to different employers.

It shall be lawful for the Immigration Agent, with the sanction of the Governor, to cancel the contract of service of any immigrant, who being paid according to the quantity of his work, shall not have received work sufficient, in the opinion of the said Immigration Agent, to enable him to earn a reasonable amount of wages.

In respect of all ships leaving the colony with return immigrants, the Immigration Agent shall perform all the duties imposed on emigration officers in England by the Passenger Act, 1855.

No coolie immigrant shall be entitled to a free back passage to India unless he shall apply for the same within 18 months of the time at which it shall become due.

The Governor shall give to each applicant for a return passage at least three months' notice, as precise as circumstances render possible, of the period at which such passage will be offered him.

There shall be paid to every coolie immigrant who shall become entitled to a free passage to India, the sum of 25 *s.* for every six calendar months which shall intervene between his application for such passage and his receiving an actual offer of an opportunity for the same.

The Governor may provide a back passage, at the expense of the Colony, for any coolie immigrant who may have become unfit for labour at any period of his industrial residence.

— No. 4. —

(No. 67.)

No. 4.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Hincks.
25 February 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Hincks*.

Sir, Downing-street, 25 February 1858.

HAVING observed that a large number of liberated Africans have been taken into Sierra Leone, and located among the resident population, I instructed the Emigration Commissioners to take steps for facilitating the conveyance to the West Indies of such Africans as may hereafter reach that port under similar circumstances. I enclose the copy of an agreement which they have accordingly concluded with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. I have instructed the Governor of Sierra Leone to use his best endeavours to fill the ships furnished under this agreement with such captured Africans as may consent to emigrate. It is, of course, impossible to predict the continuance of these captures, or the degree to which the Africans may avail themselves of the opportunity offered them; but I think it desirable to inform you of the step which I have taken to secure as far as possible to the West Indies the benefits derivable from the operations of Her Majesty's cruisers.

Vide page 139.

If the Colony of Jamaica desires to share in the chance of these benefits, I should wish you to forward to me such a statement of the wages and other advantages enjoyed by labourers in that Colony, as I may communicate to the Governor of Sierra Leone.

If the colonists also desire to take advantage of the 16th article of the agreement, it will be necessary to make proper provision for paying the proposed freight of 5 *l.* per adult on all emigrants from Sierra Leone other than captured Africans, and a fee of a dollar per adult to the Emigration Agent, who will embark them.

I have instructed the Governor of Sierra Leone to explain to the emigrants of both classes (as far as possible) that they must be prepared, on their arrival, to enter into contracts of service to last for three years, or (in the case of children) till the age of 18. Of course, however, it will not be competent to the Government to impose or sanction such contracts, except in pursuance of some law which is in force in the Colony on the arrival of the immigrant.

I draw your attention to this point, in order that the Legislature may make such provision, in accordance with the above instructions, as they may consider to be under the existing circumstances required.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

P. S.—You will find in the accompanying Parliamentary Paper* the former instruction to the Immigration Agent at Sierra Leone, and various documents throwing light on this service.

* *Vide* Paper, No. 603 of 1850.

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No. 5.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Darling.
16 April 1858.

— No. 5. —

(No. 17.).

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 April 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 14,* of the 8th February, enclosing reports from the Attorney General of Jamaica upon the two Acts of the Legislature, 21 Vict. c. 5,† and 21 ‡ Vict. c. 6, the one "To amend the laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, and for raising funds to defray the expenses attendant upon their introduction and subsequent colonisation in the island." The other, "To authorise the indenturing, for purposes of industrial service, persons condemned as forfeited to Her Majesty under the statutes for the abolition of the Slave Trade in certain cases, and to remove doubts as to the rights of such persons."

* Page 204.

† *Vide* Appendix, No. 12, page 518.

‡ *Vide* Appendix, No. 13, page 535.

2. I have come to the consideration of the Act 21 Vict. c. 5, with every disposition to co-operate with the Legislature of Jamaica in their efforts to restore the agricultural and commercial prosperity of the island, and with a full sense of the value of immigrant labour in the accomplishment of this object.

3. Jamaica is now the only important sugar-producing Colony which exports a considerably smaller quantity of sugar than was exported in the time of slavery, while some such Colonies since the passing of the Emancipation Act have largely increased their production. If it were possible, either by the introduction of immigrant labourers or by any other means, to replace Jamaica in the position which in former times she occupied relatively to other communities similary situated, not only would Her Majesty's Government have the satisfaction of seeing trade and agriculture flourish as before, in one of the oldest dependencies of the Crown, but they would be enabled to point to the British Colonies as proving, without one material exception, that the voluntary labour of a free population, whether indigenous as in Barbados, or immigrant as in Mauritius, can compete successfully in open market with that which is enforced upon the slave. It would be impossible, therefore, that Her Majesty's Government should regard with hostility or indifference any well-considered attempt of the authorities of Jamaica to promote immigration into that island. But while anxiously desirous that its industrial resources may be developed by all practicable and legitimate means, they cannot lose sight of those principles which, through much controversy and an experience of results now extending over more than 10 years, have been invariably and firmly maintained by preceding Governments with a view to guarantee the entire personal freedom of the immigrant, including in such freedom the right to turn his industry to the best account which the state of the labour market may allow.

4. These principles have been so often laid down, and so uniformly acted on by every British Government that has held office since coolie emigration to the West Indies was first established, as well as by the Government of the East India Company, that it might seem almost superfluous to re-state them here, were it not that in the present instance they appear to have been lost sight of by the authorities of Jamaica. It is solely from a sense of the imperative necessity of adhering to them, founded as they are both on justice and policy, and supported by the uniform practice of former administrations, that I now find myself compelled, however reluctantly, to advise the disallowance of the Act recently passed by the Legislature.

5. The first object of Government should be to secure to immigrants, with the most scrupulous good faith, all the benefits which have been promised them as their inducement to emigrate. Among the foremost of these benefits is that of being in a country where, as a general rule, every man is free to choose both the employer he will serve, and the amount of labour he will perform, and every man is to be governed by laws applying equally to all, and devised for the order and well-being of the society as a whole. Such being the general rule, the temporary and partial exception in the case of the immigrant is founded, like the exception in the case of an apprentice, upon specific contract and arrangement made by him or on his behalf, whereby he surrenders his freedom of action in specified particulars and for a limited time, in return for the money expended in bringing him to the Colony, and for the advantage afforded him in being trained

trained to a particular kind of labour. The terms of this contract cannot be adjusted by the East Indian emigrant for himself, owing to his inevitable ignorance of the circumstances affecting the transaction. The information he receives, therefore, is given to him on the authority of the Government, and it devolves upon the Government to determine what amount of freedom of action it is necessary that he shall give up in return for the advantages offered him.

6. The regulations which have been established by Her Majesty's Government, in pursuance of these principles, to govern the duration of contracts, are laid down in the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch to the Governor of British Guiana, of the 16th January 1854,* of which a copy was sent to the Governor of Jamaica on 7th of March* of that year. In order to leave no room for misapprehension as to the particular provisions of law which Her Majesty's Government would be prepared to sanction, as conformable to these rules, a draft was carefully prepared of such a law as would be considered by Her Majesty's Government to establish a proper system; and a copy of this draft also was transmitted to the Governor of Jamaica in the same Despatch.

* *Vide* Papers, presented August 1857, pages 1 and 10.

7. It was necessary for the coolie's own welfare that he should not, on his first arrival in a country of which he was entirely ignorant, be thrown loose on society without guidance or control. That this precaution was not without value, the experience of Trinidad has shown. In the earlier years of emigration to that island, a large and lamentable mortality occurred among coolies introduced there, who, not being at once located on estates, wandered blindly from place to place, and whose sufferings were caused less by actual want than by ignorance of the habits necessary to health, and of the risks which they incurred in a new country and climate. It was also necessary for the reimbursement of the cost of the coolie's passage, that even after he should have become acquainted with the kind of labour required and the rate of wages current in the labour market, he should be bound to work at that rate of wages continuously and steadily, during a limited term, for the benefit of the employer to whom he should have been assigned, and on whom would be charged, in the form of fees or indentures, a certain proportion of the cost of his importation. The limit of this term of absolute contract with one employer was fixed at three years; but after the expiration of the three years, it was still required of the coolie, unless absolving himself by a money payment, that he should serve a fourth and a fifth year under a contract, or two successive contracts, for terms of not less than 12 months each, to one or more employers of his own choosing. It was laid down, moreover, that the coolie should be at liberty to return to India, at his own expense, at the expiration of these terms, amounting in the whole to five years, or at the public expense after a residence of 10 years,—stipulations which are of great importance, when it is borne in mind that the coolies, for the most part, leave their families behind in the country whence they come, and constitute in the Colony whither they go a population of which the female proportion is very small.

8. Under terms of contract such as these it was anticipated, and it has been shown, that in Colonies which can afford to offer such terms, coolie immigrants will constitute a population moderately but steadily industrious, and at the same time as free as any man is free who is under an obligation to work for his subsistence, and, whilst learning his business, to work for one master, receiving the market value of his labour. The good treatment of the immigrant is secured by the limited duration of his contract, since it is obviously the employer's interest to retain his services when the legal engagement between them ceases, and when he becomes free to transfer those services elsewhere. The planter on the other hand has the advantage of labour, not indeed cheaper in money value than that which he could obtain in the Colony, but far more profitable, as being continuous and steady, and not liable to those sudden and vexatious interruptions which so injuriously affect his business.

9. It is my duty to point out to you, and I do so with great regret, that the principles so clearly laid down by my predecessors, and to which I have briefly referred, have been, so far as duration of contracts is concerned, altogether set aside in the present law. This law authorises an absolute contract for five years instead of three, and would require the re-indenture of the immigrant, not to any employer he may himself select, but to some one amongst the employers to whom the immigrants have been originally allotted. It also requires that, whether the immigrant be desirous to earn a return passage at the public charge or not, he shall continue under indentures, each of not less than 12 months' duration, for a second

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second period of five years, such obligation being commutable for a payment in money, nor is there any provision for saving the right of the immigrant, as required by the Government of India, to return to his own country at his own expense, after five years of industrial residence.

10. The effect of the Act, in these particulars alone, did no other objections exist, would make it impossible that Her Majesty should be advised to give it her assent. It will therefore be submitted to Her Majesty in Council for disallowance so soon as a Council shall be held; and I cannot but feel some surprise that, in your Despatch transmitting it, you should have recommended its confirmation, stating it to be "founded to a great extent upon the laws relating to this important subject which have been sanctioned in other Colonies;" and adding, in your abstract of its provisions, "the immigrants shall be indentured to their employers under conditions which I am assured are already sanctioned by the laws of other immigration Colonies." I gather from these passages in your Despatch that you have yourself wholly overlooked, and have suffered to be overlooked by others, those Despatches from the Duke of Newcastle, of the 16th January and 10th March 1854, to which I have already adverted, and which were sent to the Governor of Jamaica, for the express purpose of so guiding the legislation of the Colony on this subject as not to bring it into conflict with the views both of the Government in this country and of the Government of India.

11. I am aware that doubts and differences of opinion have existed in Jamaica on the expediency of importing immigrants, and that these are strengthened by the necessity which is felt of raising a loan, as the only means of effecting that object. So far, however, as regards Her Majesty's Government, I can assure you that it will be a subject of sincere concern to them if the disallowance of the present Act, however inevitable, should prevent the adoption of a system of immigration. But the impediment is only temporary, and indeed is rather apparent than real. For it must be remembered that any law which offers to the immigrant terms far inferior to those offered by other Colonies not less eligible as places of abode, even were it not disallowed, would be, in all probability, inoperative. The inducements to immigration held out by British Guiana and Trinidad, though far superior to those offered by this Act, have been diminished of late years, so as to make it a matter of difficulty to obtain any considerable number of coolies for those Colonies, competing as they do with Mauritius in the same labour market. Formerly a free return passage was offered by Guiana and Trinidad after five years' industrial or indentured residence; it is now offered only after 10 years. If, in the judgment of competent authorities, even this change materially cripples the efforts of the emigration agent in India to procure for the Colonies in question the required number of emigrants, still less can it be expected that he should be enabled to obtain emigrants for Jamaica under such conditions as the present Act would authorise him to offer.

24 March 1858. Enclosure.

12. But in case the Legislature of Jamaica should be disposed to adopt a measure on the principles sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, I transmit to you the accompanying extract of a report on the present Act which I have received from the Emigration Commissioners, to whom it was referred. You will find in these extracts an examination of the provisions of the Act in detail, and I have to express my concurrence in the observations of the Commissioners upon those provisions. At the same time I would refer you, for your surest guidance in explaining the views of Her Majesty's Government, to the model Ordinance transmitted to your predecessor, in the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch of 7th March 1854, apart from all other documents or correspondence which may have a more local or partial application.

13. The second Act enclosed in your Despatch (cap. 6 authorises the Agent General of Immigration to indent liberated Africans, "whatever may be the age of such persons," for seven years, and further provides "that such persons may also be re-indentured from time to time to any employers within the meaning of the said Act." This is contrary to the course which has on several occasions since the abolition of slavery been prescribed by the Imperial Government. The liberated Africans, it must be borne in mind, are not introduced at the expense of the Colony, and it is no more than reasonable to require that they should be dealt with strictly on the principles laid down by the British Government for their protection. The longest period for which the indentures

of

of any Africans were sanctioned was three years, or such time as might elapse until the African should reach the age of 18. To this rule I consider myself bound to adhere, and I shall therefore feel it my duty to advise Her Majesty to disallow the Act.

14. Before legalising the indentures of the Africans landed from the "Arab," you will have the goodness to report precisely the period for which those indentures were made. They ought not to be confirmed for more than the period above stated.

15. In conclusion, I have to acquaint you, that if the Legislature of Jamaica should pass a fresh measure which will admit of instituting a coolie immigration, it will be requisite that you should furnish me with a statement, for transmission to the emigration agents in India, of the ordinary prices of provisions, the current rates of wages to which the immigrants will be entitled, and any other advantages which they will possess.

(signed) *Stanley.*

Enclosure in No. 5.

Encl. in No. 5.

EXTRACT.

Emigration Office, 24 March 1858

WE regret to say that the provisions of this law, so far as they respect the duration of contracts, are directly opposed to the principles laid down by the Home Government.

The rules which regulate the duration of the contracts of immigrants are laid down in the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch of 16th January 1854. We have frequently had occasion to repeat that this Despatch sanctioned absolute contracts for three years, with a provision that they should be held to be renewed for a fourth and fifth year, unless the coolie at the commencement of such years either redeemed them by a money payment or required the Immigration Agent to transfer him to a master of his own choosing; and the Indian Government requires that the coolie should be at liberty to return to India at his own expense at the expiration of this period, or at the public expense after an industrial residence of 10 years.

The present law sanctions an absolute contract for five years, and requires the re-indenture of the immigrants, not to employers of their own choosing, but "among" the employers to whom they were originally allotted, for periods amounting to a second five years. The law thus renders it impossible for the labourer to return to his own country, or even to escape the necessity of this extended service, except by payment of 2*l.* 10*s.* per annum.

If Lord Stanley is of opinion that the existing principles should be maintained, it will of course be impossible that this law should receive Her Majesty's sanction till it is so altered as to be reconcilable with the conditions laid down in the above Despatch of the Duke of Newcastle.

And it would further be requisite to require of the Legislature that in repealing the existing law, which limits the duration of contracts to one year, they should substitute some fresh and reasonable limit, which it would probably be convenient to make identical with the period of immigrants' contracts—viz. three years. The disinclination of the population to any form of indenture is, we apprehend, such as might generally preclude the necessity of a legislative limit. But in exceptional cases, especially among half-informed immigrants, such a protection to imprudent persons seems very necessary.

The coolie's right to return to India at his own expense after five years' residence should also be distinctly saved. Although the expense of the passage renders the privilege quite nugatory, good faith towards the Indian Government requires that it should be recognised.

The following defects have also occurred to us in perusing the Acts:

The arrangement of the first 40 clauses is confused. If the clauses relating to the same subjects were thrown together they would, as it appears to us, fall into something like the following order (designating them by the numbers which they at present bear): 1, 2, 5, 12, 13, 9, 3, 4, 6, 18, 20, 7, 17, 14, 11, 10, 19, 22, 23, 24, 32, 21, 25, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 15, 16.

The proposed appointment of a special agent to check the selections of Mr. Caird was the subject of our report of the 9th of December last, and is discussed in the Governor's Despatch of the 8th of February, enclosed in your letter of the 19th instant. It appears to us not likely to work well.

Our objections to the appointment itself were, first, that it would involve various expenses or inconveniences to Jamaica itself, and next, that if the Emigration Agent were subjected to this kind of pressure on the part of Jamaica and not on the part of other Colonies, the almost certain result would be, that he would avoid his difficulties by sending to British Guiana or Trinidad the people rejected by the Jamaica agent, and sending to Jamaica a more eligible class who would otherwise go to British Guiana or Trinidad.

On the first of these objections, if its validity is not admitted by the authorities of Jamaica, it would not, we presume, be necessary for the Secretary of State to insist. To the second, the Governor replies in his Despatch already cited, that British Guiana and Trinidad having hitherto been content to receive all the labourers brought to Calcutta (meaning, of course, all

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all who are approved by Mr. Caird) will be no worse off than they are now. But this, it will be seen, does not touch our exact objection, which was, that they would receive the worst selections made for Jamaica in return for the best made for themselves. The Governor also indicates that other Colonies may, if they choose, make similar appointments, that is, that those Colonies who employ one agent jointly to collect coolies, may also each employ a separate officer to check the proceeding of this joint agent. But if Mr. Caird requires all this controlling machinery, it would surely be much better, with all its inconveniences, that the Colonies who are dissatisfied with his services should be allowed to dispense with them and appoint separate agents (being of course Government officers) of their own.

We are unable, therefore, to recommend that the proposed appointments should be sanctioned.

It is for the consideration of the Jamaica authorities whether the Immigration Agent (sec. 17) ought not to keep a register of all immigrants brought into the island, whether paid for out of the guaranteed loan fund or not.

The recital of the 22d clause is not quite correct. It is stated that the Government of India has consented to the immigration of coolies "under engagement to render industrial service for ten years, in consideration whereof they are to be provided with back passages." The exact understanding is, that the coolies are to perform an industrial service for five years (not 10), that they shall then be entitled to return to India at their own expense, and that a second industrial service of five years should entitle them to a free return passage.

The same mistaken recital is contained in other West Indian laws, but it has not been thought necessary to raise any question about it, as the positive enactments which it introduced were unobjectionable. But this Act, as we have pointed out, bases on the incorrect recital enactments which definitively bind the coolie to 10 years' service. It is time, therefore, that the error, though merely one of statement, should be removed.

By section 25, the immigrant should be allowed the option of commuting, in money, the service which he is bound to render in compensation of absences.

The omission in section 30 to provide for Indian festivals (to which the Governor refers in his Despatch) is of no great importance. The point was first suggested by an Indian officer, with the tacit approval of the Indian Government. In order to obviate all objection, the Colonial Government were desired to make the necessary provision, and the Indian Government were requested (more than once) to state for what festivals it would be necessary to provide. To this inquiry, however, no answer has been given, and we presume the matter is not thought of much importance. In amending the law, however, it will be as well to provide for this point.

In section 32, the words "or other" seem superfluous, but as this clause is altogether objectionable on grounds already stated, the verbal error is of less consequence.

In section 35 the immigrant should be authorised to claim his return passage "not 18 months before the expiration of 10 years," but at "any time within 18 months after the period at which such back passage may become claimable."

We are inclined to think that the provision (section 43) which gives to creole policemen a reward (at the expense of the labourer for all immigrants taken back to an employer's estate, would be calculated to produce too much of vexatious interference with Indians or others who were legitimately passing from place to place. If the prohibition to quit a certain locality cannot be carried out in Jamaica without this temptation to troublesome interference, it is a question whether it would not be better to allow it to lose part of its efficacy. The laws of British Guiana and Trinidad contain no such clause.

The Governor discusses the question (section 66), whether mortgagees may not be injured by the clause which renders money due to Government in respect of immigrants a first charge on the estate. As a general rule, it appears to us fair that the charges *bonâ fide* incurred in rendering an estate productive, should have priority over the claims of those interested in the results of that expenditure. But of course this principle may be abused, and much depends on the amount of the charge. In the present case the liability is that of defraying the cost of introducing a certain number of emigrants, which is to be paid for in 10 half-yearly instalments. These instalments might be allowed by Government to accumulate against the owner of land to an extent which would be very unjust to the incumbrancer. We would suggest that the priority of Government should never extend to more than two half-yearly payments.

The sum set apart under section 76 to furnish back passages, seems fairly calculated. To those who commuted their right, it would furnish nearly the usual amount of commutation ($ 50), and the accumulations of interest (sec. 77), with the money paid on Indians who die during their 10 years' residence, would meet the difference between the cost of a return passage (say 13 *l.*) and the sum set apart for the purpose (10 *l.*).

It is, however, a clear contribution from the general revenue towards immigration.

The provisions respecting the commutation of back passages disclose an imperfect apprehension of the state of the case. The back passage is due to the coolie himself, and not to Her Majesty's Government. The Governor, therefore, cannot forego it, and is moreover bound to see that the coolie is not allowed to forego it himself, without a clear understanding of what he is about.

— No. 6. —

(No. 23.)

No. 6.

Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Darling. 3 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 3 May 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 36* of the 10th March, in which you request that Jamaica may receive a fair proportion of any liberated Africans sent from Sierra Leone to the West Indies, and at the same time call attention to what you regard as the superior inducements held out to immigrants of this description by the Immigration Acts, Nos. 4195 and 4196, which have been recently passed by the Legislature of that Colony.

* Page 208.

2. In reply, I have to refer you to my predecessor's Despatch, No. 67 † of the 25th February last, intimating to you the arrangements which had been entered into for the conveyance of liberated Africans to the West Indies, and to my Despatch No. 17 ‡ of the 16th ult., communicating Her Majesty's disallowance of the Immigration Acts.

† Page 279.

‡ Page 280.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

— No. 7. —

(No. 24.)

No. 7.

Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Darling. 3 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 3 May 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 19th March, No. 44, § transmitting a memorial addressed to the Queen in Council, signed by Mr. Edward Hewett on behalf of a meeting of the labouring population in the parish of St. James, praying that Her Majesty will withhold Her assent from the Immigration Act passed by the Legislature of Jamaica.

§ Page 208.

I request that you will cause Mr. Hewitt to be informed that the memorial has been laid before the Queen, but that the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon the Act had already been communicated to you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

— No. 8. —

(No 25.)

No. 8.

Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Darling. 10 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 10 May 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 29th March, No. 54, ‖ transmitting a memorial addressed to the Queen in Council, signed by Mr. J. E. Henderson on behalf of a meeting of the "lately emancipated population," held at Watford, in the parish of Hanover, praying that Her Majesty will withhold Her assent from the Immigration Act passed by the Legislature of Jamaica.

‖ Page 214.

I request that you will cause Mr. Henderson to be informed that the memorial has been laid before the Queen, but that the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon the Act had already been communicated to you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

JAMAICA.

— No. 9. —

No. 9.

Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Darling. 12 May 1858.

(No. 26.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 12 May 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 7th April, No. 56,* transmitting a memorial addressed to the Queen in Council, signed by the Rev. Ellis Fray, praying that Her Majesty will withhold Her assent from the Immigration Act passed by the Legislature of Jamaica.

* Page 215.

I request that you will cause the Rev. Mr. Fray to be informed that the memorial has been laid before the Queen, but that the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon the Act had already been communicated to you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

— No. 10. —

No. 10.

Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Darling. 15 May 1858.

(No. 27.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 May 1858.

WITH reference to my Despatch, No. 17† of the 16th ultimo, I transmit to you herewith an order made by Her Majesty in Council on the 7th instant, disallowing the Jamaica Acts, Nos. 4195 and 4196, relating to agricultural immigrants, for the reasons stated in that Despatch.

† Page 286.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

— No. 11. —

No. 11.

Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Darling. 15 May 1858.

(No. 29.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 May 1858.

WITH reference to the proposal which was made on the subject from the Colony under your government, I have the honour to inform you that the East India Board conveyed to this office, with an expression of their own concurrence, an intimation from the Court of Directors that they would not object to allowing coolie labourers in the West Indies to commute their right to a back passage, but that they could only give this consent on condition that the coolie should be made fully to understand by a Protector of Emigrants (to be appointed by the Government of India and paid by the Colonies) the nature of the bargain into which he might enter.

14 April 1858. *Vide* page 160.

5 May 1858. *Vide* page 162.

14 May 1858. *Vide* page 162.

I could not but feel that this condition was open to objections of the most serious character. I therefore caused a representation, of which a copy is enclosed, to be addressed to the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, but they have informed me in answer that they and the Court of Directors adhere to their previous opinion. Copies of this answer, and of a reply which I have caused to be returned to it, are enclosed for your information.

You will find fully stated in the correspondence the numerous inconveniences which in my opinion would have been likely to attend the enforcement of the provision stipulated for by the Indian Departments. I believe that a plan admitting the commutation of a right to back passage upon fair terms, and with the full assent of immigrants who had become thoroughly acquainted with the Colonies, would have been likely to be beneficial to all parties, but I do not think that the advantage would be worth purchasing by yielding to so anomalous an arrangement as the introduction into the West Indies of an officer appointed by and responsible to a distant Government, necessarily unfamiliar with the circumstances of the Colonies in which its functionary would have to act.

It

It may still be hoped that some of the coolies who have prospered in the Colonies, and become attached to them, may at the end of ten years' residence choose to remain there, even though they will be prevented from receiving an equivalent for the passage which they would be entitled to demand from the public.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 12. —

(No. 30.)

No. 12.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Darling.
21 May 1858.
10 May 1858. Enclosure.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 21 May 1858.

IN answer to your Despatch, No. 53,* of the 26th March last, with a letter from the Immigration Agent General, respecting liberated Africans in Jamaica, I transmit for your information and guidance copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, to whom I referred your Despatch.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

* Page 213.

Enclosure in No. 12.

Encl. in No. 12.

Sir, Emigration Office, 10 May 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 29th ultimo, with the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Jamaica, and a communication from the Immigration Agent, stating the advantages which the liberated Africans may obtain in Jamaica.

2. The Immigration Agent states labourers may earn by piece-work 2 *s.* or 3 *s.* a day, but that the liberated Africans, if they prefer it, may receive 1 *s.* a day wages, with house, garden, and medical attendance. "They are at present," he says, "indentured on their arrival upon such terms as the Immigration Agent thinks best for their physical well-being and moral improvement. But, if required, they might be allotted under the form of indenture provided by the recent Immigration Act (Schedule No. 4), which secures to them for nine months a fixed scale of food and clothing, and of that period the current wages paid to other labourers." It appears to us that the latitude which the present practice gives to the Immigration Agent is too indefinite; and that the form provided by the Immigration Act (which Act has been, we believe, disallowed, but will probably be re-enacted in this respect) is a very proper one for general use; subject to such modifications as special cases may render necessary. We apprehend that in practice an African learns the value of colonial money and the mode of dealing with it before he has been three months in the Colony.

3. With regard to that part of our agreement with Messrs. Hyde & Hodge, which promises 5 *l.* a head on free Africans placed on board by the Governor of Sierra Leone, Mr. Ewart observes, that sufficient provision for payment of this bounty is made by the Immigration Act 21 Vict. c. 5. We do not exactly see that this is the case. But we desire to explain that Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. could not be directed to embark free Africans for Jamaica, unless we are authorised by the Colonial Government to promise them 5 *l.* per adult for persons of that class landed in Jamaica, and enabled to give them a clear explanation of the classes of persons on whom, and the conditions under which such a bounty would be receivable.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

H. Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 13. —

(No. 31.)

No. 13.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley to Governor Darling.
26 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley* to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 26 May 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch, Jamaica, No. 45,† of the 19th March last, respecting an application that certain African emigrants from Sierra Leone may be sent back to their country.

† Page 211.

2. The course of the proceedings appears to have been, that in 1849 these people, to the number of 231, applied for return passages, which the Government of Jamaica was directly pledged to give them, and that nothing was done till 1851, when the "Glentanner" arrived in the Colony, under engagement to return to

JAMAICA.

Africa. Notice of this opportunity was given to the Africans, but this notice being, according to the Immigration Agent, unavoidably insufficient, not more than 49 were prepared to embark when the ship was ready to sail. "Since 1852," he adds, "no provision has been made for the return passages of African immigrants." It seems, however, that 17 Africans were sent back to Sierra Leone by the transport "Perseverance." One application was brought by the Governor before the Immigration Board on the 14th September 1857, when it was resolved that no such application could be entertained, "as under existing circumstances no opportunity of obtaining such passages are afforded." Among the applicants who have been thus treated, 27 bear the same names as the persons whose relations have preferred their complaints to the Governor of Sierra Leone.

Thus it appears that the authorities of Jamaica took no steps whatever to redeem their pledge of giving these people a return passage at the end of five years' industrial residence, contenting themselves with giving the Africans twice (as far as appears) in the course of nine years a confessedly insufficient notice of such opportunities as spontaneously offered themselves. It cannot but be expected that persons so treated by the very authorities to whom they have to look for protection will abandon all hopes of obtaining the rights and advantages to which they are entitled in virtue of a public promise, yet unredeemed, and will accordingly cease to press their claims.

According to your statement, a few are, nevertheless, known to wish for return passages, and you say that their cases will receive due attention, when an opportunity of meeting their wishes can be found.

I desire to call your attention to the nature of this question, as affecting the character and good faith of the Colonial Government, and I have to request that you will, at the earliest moment at which it may be practicable, take whatever steps may be in your power to remedy the injustice which appears to have been committed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 14. —

No. 14.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
7 June 1858.

(No. 1.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 7 June 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 69,* of the 4th ultimo, together with a Memorial, addressed to the Queen in Council, by the missionaries of the London Missionary Society in Jamaica, praying that Her Majesty will be pleased to withhold her sanction from the Immigration Act of last Session.

* Page 221.

2. I have to request that you will inform the memorialists that their Memorial has been laid before the Queen, but that the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon the Act had been previously communicated to you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 15. —

No. 15.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
7 June 1858.

(No. 2.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 7 June 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch, Jamaica, No. 70,† of the 1st ultimo, with a Memorial, addressed to the Queen in Council, signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the meeting of the pastors and delegates of the Jamaica Baptist Union, held at Falmouth, praying that Her Majesty will be pleased to withhold her sanction from the Immigration Act of the last Session.

† Page 222.

I have to request that you will inform the memorialists that their Memorial has been laid before the Queen, but that the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon the Act in question had been previously communicated to you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

—No. 16.—

No. 16.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
7 June 1858.

(No. 3.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 7 June 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the recept of your Despatch of the 26 April, No. 62,* reporting the departure of the ship "Sir George Pollock," with 136 return coolies for Calcutta.

* Page 218.

I transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject.

2 June 1858. Enclosure.

I request that you will report to me how far the figures in this letter represent accurately the history of coolie immigration in Jamaica, and whether you are able to supply any information as to the 1,500 coolies stated to be not accounted for.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 16.

Incl. in No. 16.

Sir, Emigration Office, 2 June 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 26th ultimo, enclosing the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Jamaica, in which he reports the departure of the ship "Sir G. Pollock" (630 tons), with 126 return coolies for Calcutta.

2. These persons comprise, it is said, all the coolies who desire to return to their country, except five, who, for some reason of their own, declined sailing in the "Sir G. Pollock." The papers forwarded suggest no reason for doubting that the people were properly provided with clothing and other necessaries. The warm clothing possessed by each person was of course independent of the five dozen blankets put in charge of the surgeon.

3. Financial difficulties have rendered Jamaica more tardy than her sister Colonies, British Guiana and Trinidad, in furnishing Indian labourers with the return passages to which they are entitled.

4. The number of Indians introduced into Jamaica was as follows, according to the returns printed by this Board:

In 1845	261
In 1846	1,851
In 1847	2,438
TOTAL	4,550

A considerable number of these persons must have died during five years' residence in the West Indies, including the process of acclimatisation, always very fatal to the first immigrants who locate themselves in a new country and climate. To the rest the colony was bound to give return passages, or compensation for the omission to give them, in the years 1850, 1851, and 1852.

6. In fact, however, there have been sent to India—

In 1853	1,167 coolies.
In 1854	429 „
And now, in 1858	126 „
Making in all	1,722
But out of these the children born in the colony are	142
Leaving the number of original emigrants returned to their country	1,580
The number of those who have commuted their return passages was, on 25 June 1855	1,467
Total disposed of	3,047
Died, disappeared, or otherwise unaccounted for	1,503
	4,550

7. It might perhaps be desirable to request the Governor of Jamaica to ascertain whether these figures represent accurately, as far as they go, the history of coolie immigration into Jamaica.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

JAMAICA.

— No 17 —

No. 17.

(No. 5.)

Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., to Governor Darling.

21 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 21 June 1858.

* Page 216.

I HAVE had before me your Despatch, No. 59,* of the 21st of April, expressive of a wish that the Island of Jamaica should participate in the benefit of any arrangements made for the conveyance of emigrants from Bombay to British Guiana, and also for the conveyance of emigrants from China to that Colony.

So far as regards emigration from Bombay, I have to refer you to my recent instructions, which leave it open to each Colony to provide its own agency for the collection of immigrants from India.

I have the honour to inform you that the attempt to collect emigrants in China for private individuals in Guiana, by a private agent, is experimental, and confined to a single year; but that if successful, there will be perfect readiness to extend the measure to any other Colony which will comply with the requisite conditions.

Both, however, as regards Indian coolies and Chinamen, amongst other conditions of success, there must be complete security that faith will be kept with the immigrants in the matter of their back passages, a subject on which it is to be lamented that public promises in Jamaica have not in former instances been observed with the fidelity which is so important in all such engagements.

The official agent sent out from Guiana is merely deputed to inquire into the possibility and the best means of providing for a permanent emigration; and whether the result of his inquiries be favourable or not, the benefit of the information will be equally enjoyed by every Colony interested in the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 18. —

No. 18.

(No. 10.)

Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.

14 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 July 1858.

† Page 239.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 25th May, No. 81,† forwarding copies of two memorials addressed to you from the parishes of St. Thomas in the Vale and St. Mary's, in which it is suggested that opportunity may be taken of Lord Elgin's mission to China to facilitate the emigration of Chinese to the West Indies, and that steps should be taken for sending to Jamaica from India a large number of the mutinous sepoys.

I have to acquaint you that instructions were given to Lord Elgin by Her Majesty's Government, previous to his departure for China, to consider and report upon the question of emigration from that place to the West Indies.

As regards the transportation of mutinous sepoys, you will find from my Circular Despatch‡ of the 12th instant, that it has been decided by the Indian Government that they shall be sent to the Andaman Islands.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

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‡ (Circular.)

Sir, Downing-street, 12 July 1858.

With reference to the subject of the transportation of mutineers or insurgents from India to the West India Colonies, I have to inform you that an intimation has been received from the East India Board to the effect that the Government of India has decided that the Andaman Islands are preferable to any other destination for the reception of this class of convicts.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 19. —

(No. 27.)

No. 19.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
10 Sept. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 10 September 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches of the 8th and 25th June, Nos. 85* and 94,* with reference to the immigration of liberated Africans and of free Africans from Sierra Leone to Jamaica.

* Pages 242 & 243.

I transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject, and I have to acquaint you that I have authorised the Commissioners to include Jamaica in the arrangement made for the conveyance of these people to the West Indies.

6 Aug. 1858. Enclosure.

I must, however, impress upon you the necessity of steps being taken for securing the back passages to which any of the free Africans may become entitled, as it is of the utmost importance that the conditions under which they are induced to emigrate should be faithfully observed; and I trust that in permitting the immigration there may not be cause for a repetition of complaints on the subject, which I have heard with great regret, and which, if renewed, would necessitate the abandonment of the plan.

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 19.

Encl. in No. 19.

Sir, Emigration Office, 6 August 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of the 28th ultimo, enclosing a Despatch from Governor Darling on the subject of the introduction of free African labourers into Jamaica.

2. When in the month of February last we entered into a contract with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. for the conveyance to the West Indies from Sierra Leone and St. Helena, or such liberated Africans as might be carried into those colonies by Her Majesty's cruisers, we embodied in it the condition, engrafted in 1850 on the similar contract of September 1849, by which the contractors were allowed to convey in their ships any free Africans who might be willing to emigrate to the West Indies, and were guaranteed a payment on account of them of 5 *l.* per adult. The agreement of 1850 was in the first instance restricted to Trinidad and St. Lucia, and British Guiana was afterwards added. The Secretary of State's guarantee extended, therefore, to those three Colonies only. In the new contract we inserted no limitation; but as we could not guarantee the stipulated payment in any but the above three Colonies, it was necessary that the other Colonies should announce their decision on that point, before Messrs. Hyde & Hodge could be instructed to consider the stipulation as applying to them.

3. Mr. Labouchere communicated the contract to the Governor of Jamaica in a Despatch dated the 25th February last. When the Governor received that Despatch he had recently sent home the Immigration Act, 21 Vict. cap. 5, which empowered the Governor (sect. 11) to fix and determine the cost of importation of every class of immigrant carried into Jamaica. Naturally, therefore, he did not in his answer advert to the question of the payment to be made to Messrs. Hyde & Hodge for free African immigrants, assuming that it would be in his power, under the above Act, to give effect to the stipulation contained in the contract. But when that Act was disallowed, the control over the immigration fell back to its former position, *i.e.* into the hands of the Board of Immigration Correspondence.

4. Under these circumstances we thought it necessary, in reporting on Governor Darling's Despatch of 26th March last, to point out that we had no authority to promise Messrs. Hyde & Hodge the stipulated payment on the introduction of free African immigrants into Jamaica, or to give them a clear explanation of the classes of persons on whom, or the conditions under which such a bounty would be payable. But it was not our intention, as Governor Darling appears to assume, to impute any blame for an omission which, under the circumstances, was almost unavoidable.

5. As the matter at present stands, Governor Darling is of opinion, in which no doubt he is right, that the Board of Immigration Correspondence must be consulted before any payment can be ordered by the Governor out of the guaranteed loan; and he explains the circumstances which have hitherto prevented his assembling that Board. As the influx of liberated Africans into Sierra Leone appears for the present to have ceased, and as Messrs. Hyde & Hodge will not despatch any vessels to the coast of Africa for the exclusive conveyance of free emigrants, the delay is practically of no importance. In the meantime the Governor desires to be informed, with reference to the concluding sentence of our report of 10th May last, of the classes of free immigrants which the Colony will be permitted to receive, and under what conditions their reception can be accomplished; expressing his conviction that Jamaica would accept the rules established in this respect in British Guiana and Trinidad.

JAMAICA.

6. Upon this point I have to state, that no special regulations exist in regard to the classes of free Africans to be conveyed to British Guiana and Trinidad; and that if the Government of Jamaica do not think it necessary to impose any restrictions, every class of the labouring population would be eligible for a passage, and on their arrival in the Colony they would stand on the same footing as the liberated Africans introduced at the expense of the Imperial Treasury. It would, of course, be only among the unskilled, principally the agricultural, labourers that emigrants could be looked for, and it would be desirable that as large a proportion as possible of females should be included in the emigration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 20.—

No. 20

(No. 29.)

Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling. 14 Sept. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 September 1858.

* Pages 224 and 244.

I HAVE had under my consideration so much of your Despatches,* No. 79, of 25th May, and No. 99,* of 8th July 1858, as relates to the renewal of coolie immigration into Jamaica.

† *Vide* Appendix, No. 12, p. 518.

I entirely concur in the reasons which induced my predecessor to disallow the Immigration Act, 21 Vict. c. 5,† nor can I advise Her Majesty to assent to any law, which imposes on the coolie any greater disadvantage, or supplies him with less complete protection, than is the case under the laws of other Colonies.

‡ *Vide* Appendix, No. 11, p. 516.

If the question were altogether an open one, I might, perhaps, further object to those enactments of the law now in force (20 Vict. c. 8),‡ which impose on the coolie as a condition of a return passage an industrial residence for ten years. But as it appears that this law was enacted with the express consent of one of my predecessors, I do not feel that it would be fair or advisable now to reverse a course which has been already sanctioned, and announced to the Legislature, and acted on by them on the faith of that intimation. I am confirmed in this view by observing that the same course has been permitted for other Colonies, since it seems no more than just that there should be uniformity in the conditions prescribed on this subject.

While, however, I feel it my duty to insist on the full measure of protection which is due to the coolie, I am also anxious that the Colony of Jamaica should participate as fully and as soon as possible in the advantages expected from Indian emigration. I shall accordingly (as I have elsewhere informed you) direct the Emigration Commissioners to instruct their agent at Calcutta that he is at once, if possible, to commence emigration to Jamaica. The question will then arise, on what terms the coolies are to be indented on their arrival. I cannot perceive in the present law any sufficient authority for allotting them for periods exceeding one year; nor can I consent that the Colonial Authorities should resort to any indirect contrivance for subjecting them to any obligation to which they are not strictly liable. I have no objection, however, to the passing of an Act which shall empower the Government to allot the coolies who may hereafter arrive in Jamaica on the conditions laid down in the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch, and embodied in the laws of all other Colonies which receive immigrants from India. There is ample time for the passing of such an Act, since no coolies, as I am informed, can possibly reach Jamaica before the close of the present year; and in the anticipation that it will be passed, the emigration agents will be directed to place before the coolies emigrating to Jamaica the same terms in respect of contracts as those under which they proceed to British Guiana.

I must add, however, that I shall not think myself at liberty to permit the continuance of the emigration, unless coincidently with the law which authorises an extended term of contract, provision is made for the expense of giving return passages when due. It would be desirable that a special fund should be accumulated for this purpose, as was provided by the disallowed Act. But I consider it indispensable that whether such a fund is formed or not, the Governor should be at liberty to advance from the general revenue such sums as may at any time be required to fulfil the pledges made to the coolies.

You

You are quite right in anticipating that I shall not object to any conditions which the Legislature may think fit to adopt on the ground of their being more favourable to the immigrant than the conditions enforced in other Colonies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 21. —

(No. 30.)

No. 21.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 September 1858. 14 Sept. 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 8th July, No. 99,* forwarding resolutions of the Board of Immigration Correspondence. * Page 244.

1. Recommending that a sum not exceeding 20,000 *l.* of the Imperial Guaranteed Loan should be appropriated to the introduction of Indian immigrants.

2. That a like sum should be appropriated to the introduction of Chinese immigrants.

3. Authorising the payment of 5 *l.* for each free African immigrant introduced.

With respect to the introduction of Indian immigrants, I have to acquaint you that I have authorised the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to instruct the agents in India to despatch, if possible, 3,000 coolies to Jamaica, with as little delay as may be practicable, with reference to the requirements of other Colonies.

You will of course understand that this instruction is dependent on no objection being entertained by the Indian Government to the resumption of this immigration.

I shall address you in another Despatch on the subject of the regulations and restrictions under which these immigrants are to be introduced.

As regards the introduction of Chinese, I have to express my regret that I am unable to meet the wishes of the Board, and I transmit to you for your own and for their information a copy of a letter addressed by my desire to the West India Committee, in answer to a similar application which was submitted to me on behalf of Trinidad. *28 July 1858. Enclosure.*

I have to refer you to my despatch of the 10th inst., No. 27,† as to the introduction of labour from Africa. † Page 291.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 21. Encl. in No. 21.

Sir, Downing-street, 28 July 1858.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. B. Lytton to transmit to you, for the information of the Committee of West India proprietors, a copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, forwarding the Ordinance passed by the Council of that Island for the encouragement of immigration from China. *Vide page 343.*

This Ordinance has been passed for the purpose of carrying out the scheme of immigration from China, proposed by Governor Wodehouse, concurred in by the West India Committee, and sanctioned as an experiment, and for a limited period, by Lord Stanley. A principal feature of this plan was, as the Committee are aware, the understanding that all expenses should be defrayed at the private expense of the parties introducing the immigrants.

It appears, however, that the Council are desirous that this immigration should be conducted by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and they have accordingly passed two resolutions, the first appropriating a sum of 20,000 *l.* to this immigration, the second requesting that the Secretary of State would give the necessary directions for the introduction of as many Chinese as could be introduced for that sum.

Sir E. B. Lytton is most anxious that the proprietors of estates in Trinidad should be able to avail themselves, to the fullest extent, of the permission already given for the introduction of Chinese; but, at the same time, I am to state that he does not feel himself so far warranted by the existing circumstances in deviating from the arrangement sanctioned by his predecessor, as to agree that the cost of introduction should be defrayed from public funds

JAMAICA.

Sir E. B. Lytton would have felt no reluctance in coming to this decision, nor would he have had any hesitation in determining to leave the immigration to be conducted, as he proposes it should be, by the proprietors of estates themselves, at their own expense, in the same manner as it has been undertaken by proprietors of estates in British Guiana, but that it has occurred to him as probable that some of the resident proprietors, desirous of obtaining Chinese immigrant labour, may have thought that in agreeing to the resolution of the Council, their private interests were sufficiently provided for, and may, consequently, have refrained from taking any further steps, in the event of the immigration proceeding upon a different principle. It is clearly important that they should not be disappointed in the expectations which they may not unreasonably have formed in this matter, and that through an accident they should not be precluded from participating in what was intended as a benefit for all.

I am therefore to request that you will inform the Committee, that in conveying to Governor Keate Her Majesty's confirmation of the Ordinance No. 11 of 1858, and when announcing to him the decision to which I have above referred, Sir E. B. Lytton would propose, to obviate the necessity of references to and from Trinidad, at once to instruct Governor Keate, to make it known in the island that the subscription list in England will be kept open by the West India Committee, to enable any resident proprietor to avail himself of the general arrangement sanctioned under Lord Stanley's despatch of the 1st of April, No. 13, and to participate in the advantages thereby extended to the owners of estates in Trinidad. It will, then, be necessary for any such resident proprietor to place himself in communication with the Committee for that purpose.

Sir E. B. Lytton would be glad to learn the concurrence of the West India Committee in these views at their earliest convenience, in order that Governor Keate may receive the necessary instructions by the mail of the 2d of August.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Carnarvon.*

A. Macgregor, Esq.,
West India Committee.

— No. 22. —

No. 22.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
15 Sept. 1858.

(No. 31.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 September 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 6th ultimo, No. 106,* transmitting two memorials addressed to you by the proprietors of the parishes of Westmoreland and Manchester, in Jamaica, complaining of the want of labour.

* Page 250.

In my Despatch of the 14th instant, No. 30, I have informed you that I had directed the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to instruct the agents in India to send 3,000 coolie immigrants to Jamaica, if they can be obtained.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 23. —

No. 23.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
30 Sept. 1858.

(No. 34.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir: Downing-street, 30 September 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, making various suggestions for defining in future the duties of the several emigration agents in India.

6 Sept. 1858.* Vide page 180.

I shall be glad to receive your observations upon their suggestions, should it be decided that one or more separate agents for Jamaica should be appointed in India.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

(No. 42.) — No. 24. —

No. 24.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
11 Nov. 1858.
25 Oct. 1858. Enclosure.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 11 November 1858.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 115,* of the 30th August last, respecting the results of coolie immigration into Jamaica, during the years 1845-6-7, I have to transmit to you, for your information and guidance, copy of a report furnished by the Emigration Commissioners on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

* Page 251.

Enclosure in No. 24.

Encl. in No 24.

Sir, Emigration Office, 25 October 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 11th instant, enclosing the copy of a despatch from the Governor of Jamaica, respecting the results of coolie immigration into that colony, which was carried on during the years 1845-6-7.

2. In our report of the 2d of June last, we stated how many coolies appeared by returns printed in our annual reports to have been sent back to India, how many to have commuted their right to return passages, and how many remained unaccounted for, and we suggested that the authorities should be requested to ascertain whether our information was accurate.

3. The following Table exhibits our conclusions side by side with the correction supplied by the Immigration Agent of Jamaica:—

	Emigration Commissioners.	Immigration Agent.
Total number of coolies sent to Jamaica - - - -	4,550	4,551
Number sent back to India - - - - - -	1,722	1,726
Deduct born in the colony - - - - - -	142	263
Number of original emigrants sent back - - - -	1,580	1,463
Add commutations - - - - - - - - -	1,467	1,473
Total disposed of - - - - - - - - -	3,047	2,936
Refused to return to India - - - - - -	- - - -	18
Died, disappeared, left the colony, or otherwise unaccounted for	1,503	1,597
TOTAL - - -	4,550	4,551

4. It is said that about 500 Indians left the colony for Central America, to obtain employment at high wages on the Panama Railway. But with this deduction, upwards of 1,000 persons will remain unaccounted for.

5. It is, we apprehend, impossible to tell what has become of these people. Many deaths, no doubt, occurred during the acclimatisation of the first immigrants, but the insufficient means which exist of procuring accurate statistical information, must leave it uncertain how many have left for other colonies (such emigration not being unknown), or remain in Jamaica, having idly neglected to claim their rights, and thus melted into the population.

6. It would, however, be very desirable to point out to Governor Darling the necessity of securing, not only that the coolies introduced during the coming season are allotted to no estates on which adequate preparation is not made to receive them, in the way of lodging and medical attendance, but also of taking care that such periodical returns are required in respect to all those estates as shall clearly show what becomes of those coolies, so long, at least, as they remain under indenture, and therefore liable to Government supervision.

7. Governor Darling's experience renders it quite unnecessary that he should receive any detailed instructions on this subject.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

T. F. Elliot, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

JAMAICA.

— No. 25. —

No. 25.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
16 Nov. 1858.

(No. 47.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 November 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, the copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, with one from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting the arrival of the "Sir G. Pollock" with return coolies from Jamaica.

8 Nov. 1858. Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 25.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Sir, Emigration Office, 8 November 1858.

22 Sept. 1858. Sub-Enclosure.

WE enclose the copy of a letter which we have received from the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, from which it appears the return coolie ship "Sir G. Pollock," reached Calcutta from Jamaica with the loss of only one life, although she must have passed the Cape of Good Hope during the cold weather. She left Jamaica on the 13th of April, and arrived at Calcutta in the early part of September.

2. It will be observed that the coolies brought their own savings with them, and that none of the discontent arose which has resulted from the opposite system.

3. We would suggest that copies of this letter should be forwarded to the Governor of Jamaica and the India Board.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

T. F. Elliot, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure.

(No. 34 of 1858.)

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
22 September 1858.

Sir,

IN continuation of my letter of the 8th instant, reporting the arrival at this port of the "Sir George Pollock" with return coolies from Jamaica, I have now the honour to state, for the information of Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, that 55 men, 25 women, 24 boys, 16 girls, and 5 infants (besides two born on the voyage), were landed in good condition from the above vessel, one woman having died on the passage.

I further desire to add that the provisions of the charterparty were fully and faithfully observed by those in whose charge the coolies were intrusted on the voyage, as evidenced by a certificate given to the master, countersigned by the protector of emigrants, as well as from personal inquiry among the people themselves.

The surgeon-superintendent has also been paid the full amount of gratuity on all coolies landed alive, agreeably to the terms of agreement at the port of embarkation in my possession. The coolies by this ship brought their own money savings, which enabled them to complete their arrangements for going to their several districts almost immediately after landing; thus the delay and discontent experienced in the case of the "Eveline," has been wholly avoided, and the happiest effect has resulted therefrom.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 26. —

No. 26.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
30 Nov. 1858.
* Page 257.

(No. 51.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 30 November 1858.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 128,* of the 11th ultimo, making various suggestions for carrying on coolie immigration into Jamaica.

I caused

I caused a copy of your Despatch to be referred to the Emigration Commissioners, and I transmit to you, for your information, a copy of the reply of the Commissioners, stating the manner in which they propose conducting this immigration.

19 Nov. 1858. Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 26.

Encl. in No. 26.

Sir, Emigration Office, 19 November 1858.

With reference to your letter of the 16th instant, enclosing the copy of a despatch from the Governor of Jamaica respecting the resumption of coolie immigration to that island, we have the honour to state, for the information of the Colonial Government, that we have instructed the acting emigration agents at Calcutta and Madras, in any charterparties they may enter into in India for the conveyance of coolies to Jamaica, to insert a clause making provision that each ship shall touch at Port Morant, at the east end of the colony, in order that the master may receive orders as to the port at which the coolies are to be disembarked. It must be observed, however, that our letter will not reach Calcutta till the end of December.

2. With regard to the Governor's wish that he may be kept informed of the charter of vessels as they are taken up, we have to state that it is our practice to communicate to the Colonial Office, with a view to their transmission to the colonies concerned, copies of all letters from the agents in India which bear on the charter or despatch of coolie ships. We shall, of course, adopt the same arrangement with regard to Jamaica.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch,*
Frederic Rogers.

T. F. Elliot, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 27. —

(No. 52.)

No. 27.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling, 30 Nov. 1858.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 30 November 1858.

I have had under my consideration your Despatch, No. 118,* of the 24th September last, with an extract from the proceedings of the Board of Immigration Correspondence, requesting the appointment of emigration agents in India and China.

* Page 254.

2. You will have already learnt by my Despatch, No. 29,† of the 14th of September, the terms under which coolie immigration is to be conducted. Subject, then, to these conditions, you may consider yourself at liberty to appoint an emigration agent for India.

† Page 292.

3. As regards return passages, you are quite right in supposing that none are required to be provided in the case of Chinese.

4. I have no desire to discuss the question as to whether the authorities of Jamaica under the former system of government did, or did not perform their obligations punctually in regard to return passages, and I am quite willing to recognise the truth of your statement, that the reformed government of Jamaica has shown no indisposition to give effect to its promises.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 28. —

No. 28.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
4 December 1858.

(No. 58.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 4 December 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 134,* of the 25th October last, forwarding the reports of the stipendiary magistrates for the half year ending the 30th June last.

* Page 257.

I have to request that you will forward to the Bishop of Kingston, for his consideration, an extract from Mr. Crewe's report,* transmitted herewith.

* Mr. Crewe's report will be found printed at page 266 of this collection.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 29. —

No. 29.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Darling.
29 December 1858.

(No 71.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Darling*.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 December 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners with reference to the remuneration of surgeons employed on board the Australian and West Indian immigration vessels.

23 November 1858.
* *Vide* page 414.

I have authorised the Commissioners to adopt the scale of remuneration which they have recommended.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

TRINIDAD.

Despatches from the Governor.

— No. 1. —

(No. 54.)

No. 1.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
6 July 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

Trinidad, 6 July 1857.
(Received, 3 August 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 85, 15 September 1857, page 374.)

I HAVE very great pleasure in informing you that the school established in the ward of Tacarigua for the education and industrial training of the children of Indian immigrants, as mentioned in my predecessor's Despatch, No. 102,* of the 25th October last, having been duly certified by me to be efficient for its purpose, under the provisions of Ordinance No. 11, of 1856, was formally opened on the 2d instant.

* *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, page 333.

2. This school is intended to be confined to the support, industrial training, and education of orphan children only. At its opening there were already nine on the establishment, who had been brought there direct from the ships in which they arrived. The Agent General of Immigrants is now occupied in collecting the orphans who have become such since their arrival on the several estates on which their parents were employed. The building, which has been erected partly at the expense of Frederick William Burnley, Esq., the owner of the Orange Grove Estate, in the immediate vicinity of which it is situated, and the originator of the scheme, and partly by voluntary contributions made in the island, is capable of accommodating 40 orphans, who are to be clothed, fed, and domiciled in it as well as educated. A sum of 10*l.* a year is payable by Government, under the Ordinance, for the support of each orphan, and a voluntary sustentation fund has been opened to meet whatever further expenses may be incurred in carrying out the objects of the institution. The training is to be industrial, and it is hoped that the children will contribute materially to their own support by their labour on the provision grounds attached to the school.

3. Independently of the motives of benevolence which have thus operated in providing a home and a Christian and English education for these poor children, I think this institution likely, in the end, to be productive of important results. The separation of even a small number of persons of Indian extraction at an age when lasting impressions are most easily formed, from the debasing influences of caste and heathenism, is in itself a gain, but when it is considered that this is to be done in a country so far removed as Trinidad from the land where those influences are rife, and that all other ties to that land are severed at the same time, it will not appear too much to predict that this asylum may prove to

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be the cradle, so to say, of a local Indian population, Indian, that is, in descent and natural characteristics, but English, in education and feeling, and having no home associations beyond the limits of the Colony.

It will of course be a work of time to bring about such a result, but a deep debt of gratitude is already due to those who have been instrumental in laying the foundations for its accomplishment, and I have not failed to express by letter to Mr. Burnley, in England, and verbally to his able co-operator here, the Honourable Mr. Eccles, my high sense, and that of the community generally, of the benefits they have conferred upon the Colony by originating the mission to the Indian immigrants in it, upon which, mainly by their exertions also, the present institution has been grafted. In my letter to Mr. Burnley, I have taken the opportunity of communicating to him the substance of the last paragraph in your Despatch* No. 4, of the 19th December last, in which you express your desire that all fitting acknowledgment of his munificence should be made on the part of Her Majesty's Government, as I do not collect from the wording of it whether it has already been done, as would no doubt be more agreeable to him, from home.

* *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 290.

4. The point which, in your observations upon the Ordinance No. 11, of 1856, you wish to be made clear, namely, as to the consent of the mother being required as well as that of the father of children who may be sent to schools established under the Ordinance, does not come into question in this instance, as none but orphans, that is, children who have lost or been abandoned by both parents, are to be admitted into the Tacarigua school, but so soon as it is proposed to open any school of a wider range, I shall not fail to draw the attention of the Agent General of Immigrants to the subject, and to direct him to obtain such consent in every case where the mother is living and forthcoming.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 2. —

(No. 56.)

No. 2. Governor Keate to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 8 July 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Trinidad, 8 July 1857.

Sir, (Received, 3 August 1857.)

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival of the ship "Scindian," from Calcutta, with 228 Indian immigrants. Sixty deaths occurred on board this ship during the voyage. In this, as in the case of the other ships which have arrived this season with immigrants, both the master and the medical officer in charge complain that the allowance of rice is insufficient, and that the biscuit does not agree with the coolies. They also condemn the centre fittings in the ships.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.
Enclosure 3.

I enclose copies of the reports of the Agent General of Immigrants, and of the Health Officer of Shipping.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Encl. 1, in No. 2.

(B.)

Port of Spain.

Date, 9 July 1857.

REPORT on the Immigrants by the Ship "Scindian," which arrived at Trinidad from Calcutta on the 2d July 1857.

Name of the master, James Cammell.
Name of the surgeon, J. B. Ferdinand.
Date of departure, 7th March 1857.
Number of days on the voyage, 117.
Registered tonnage, 650.
Number of statute adults admissible, 254½.
Number of crew, 30.
Port at which vessel touched, St. Helena.
Date of touching, 4th June 1857.
Days there, two.
If placed in quarantine, state the cause: no.

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
156	81	21	14	272	1	–	19	14	10	5	137	67	11	9	224
	16 infants.							12 infants.					4 infants.		

[Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.]

These people were in fair order, and appear to have been carefully treated; seven were sent to hospital.

Signature, *Henry Mitchell*,
Government Immigration Agent General.

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

Encl. 2, in No. 2.

Sir, Trinidad, 6 July 1857.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the ship "Scindian," Cammell master, from Calcutta, arrived here on Thursday the 2d instant with 137 men, 67 women, 11 boys, 9 girls, and 4 infants; in all 228 Indian immigrants. They were classified on the 4th, and distributed to-day.

The deaths on the voyage amounted to 19 men, 14 women, 10 boys, 5 girls, and 12 infants; six men and one woman were sent to hospital.

As this vessel, under the same commander, with the same surgeon, and from the same port, arrived here last year with a mortality of only three men and one woman, the opportunity presents itself of ascertaining with some certainty how far the increased per-centage of deaths on board the coolie ships of this year depend upon avoidable causes.

The coolies per "Scindian" were not quite equal to those per "Granville," but superior to the others of this year's arrival. They appear to have been treated on board with kindness and consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Mitchell*,
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

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Encl. 3, in No. 2.

Enclosure 3, in No. 2.

Sir, Trinidad, 3 July 1857.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I visited officially this day the Indian ship "Scindian," out 116 days from Calcutta.

This ship took on board there 288 coolies, classed as follows: 156 men, 81 women, 21 boys, 14 girls, and 16 infants; of which number, 56 have died from diarrhœa and dysentery on the passage, the mortality falling chiefly on the young people, and occurring soon after embarkation; four are so ill as to require to go to hospital, and the immigrants in general do not look well.

The medical officer in charge, as well as the captain, find fault with the dietary, disapproving of biscuit, which coolies do not relish, and to which they are unaccustomed, and complaining that the allowance of rice is insufficient. They also agree in condemning the centre fittings, and in fact the others as well, as obstructing ventilation, and harbouring impurities to corrupt the air between decks.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Anderson*, M.D.,
Inspector of Health of Shipping.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 3. —

No. 3.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
4 August 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

(No. 70.)

Trinidad, 4 August 1857.
(Received, 31 August 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 96, 9 November 1857, p. 376.)

I HAVE the honour to forward to you a copy of an Ordinance passed by the Council of Government of this island, intituled, "An Ordinance to authorise Contracts of Service for Five Years with Immigrants from certain Places, and to give Validity to certain Contracts of Service."

Vide Appendix, No. 21, page 561.

The necessity of legislating on the subject dealt with by this Ordinance was, as explained by the Attorney General, brought about by the arrival of a vessel containing 84 immigrants from the Cape de Verd Islands, engaged there by private parties, at their own expense. No bounty being payable on them, these labourers were, as far as the local Government is concerned, precisely in the same position as to their introduction as the numbers who are continually being brought from the neighbouring East Indian Islands, whether British or foreign. They had, however, entered into contracts of service before leaving the Cape de Verdes, and it was when an endeavour was made to give legal validity to these contracts under the provisions of Ordinance No. 8, of 1847, commonly called the "Masters' and Servants' Ordinance," or the General Immigration Ordinance, No. 24, of 1854,* that their case came under my consideration. I found that these contracts were loosely worded, and contradictory in many parts, and though bearing the signature of the British Consul at the Cape de Verde Islands, quite incapable of being carried out, either in their letter or their sense, in accordance with the laws of Trinidad. It was necessary, therefore, either that these immigrants should be thrown upon the general labour market, though introduced at private expense, or that they should voluntarily enter into new contracts here. This they at once consented to do, and the form of contract annexed to the Ordinance now transmitted was the one adopted on the considerations set forth and explained in his report by the Attorney-General. The Ordinance was passed to meet a special case; but another vessel from the same quarter was momentarily expected at the time, and has since arrived, with a further supply of immigrants engaged under precisely similar circumstances. These have just been located, after undergoing a period of quarantine, the details of which I shall have the honour to report to you in a separate Despatch.

Vide Papers presented August 1857, p. 458.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
5 August 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

(No. 71.)

Trinidad 5 August, 1857.
(Received, 31 August 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 90, 27 September 1857, page 374.)

REFERRING to my Despatch, No. 70,* forwarded by this mail, I have the honour to report that the ship "Penelope" arrived here on the 11th of June last from the Cape de Verde Islands, with 88 immigrants on board.

* Page 302.

On the vessel's being visited by the harbour-master and the health officer of shipping, they ascertained that one of the immigrants showed symptoms of small-pox. On this being reported to me, I directed the ship to be immediately placed in quarantine, and gave directions to have two of the "Five Islands" taken and converted into a temporary lazaretto, on which the immigrants were landed, and a day and night guard established to prevent all communication with either the islands or the ship. The disease soon manifested itself, and rapidly spread among the immigrants; but being well supplied with fresh virus, and vaccination having been resorted to, it assumed a mild form. After the lapse of a certain number of days from the last convalescent case, and all danger of infection being removed, it was deemed advisable to release the vessel, and the people were distributed on the 29th of last month. Eight deaths occurred whilst the immigrants were in quarantine, seven from small-pox and one from exhaustion.

In the present scarcity of labour it is satisfactory to reflect that, under Providence, this Colony has been fortunate enough to escape the introduction which threatened it of a disease, which, as I am informed, deprived it in the year 1837 of upwards of 3,000 of its labouring population.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 5. —

No. 5.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M P.
6 August 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

(No. 72.)

Trinidad, 6 August 1857.
(Received, 21 August 1857.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 44,† of the 12th of June last, enclosing copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, with a copy of a letter from Mr. Caird relative to the treatment of coolies, and instructing me to furnish the information as to the current rate of wages in Trinidad, applied for in the report of the Emigration Commissioners dated 14th May 1836, forwarded in your Despatch addressed to my predecessor, No. 80,‡ of the 30th of that month.

† *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 294.

‡ *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 249.

2. In this colony the rate of wages is by common consent dependent on the time required for the execution of any specified work. The ordinary field-task, or daily piece-work, is finished out of crop in four hours by an average labourer, and this without distinction as to its nature; if the labourer finds that it occupies him more than the time mentioned, he leaves the field at his usual hour, and the employer is obliged to graduate the work afresh. This subject is now so thoroughly understood as never to be brought before the stipendiary magistrate or the Agent General of Immigrants, except in the case of newly arrived immigrants, and then rarely.

3. When immigrants arrive, they are allowed either to rest for a fortnight, or to work at once at the usual rates current in the districts where they happen to

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be located; in the latter case they are paid during the first month partly in rations at cost price, and partly in money. When landed in good order, it is not unusual for them to go at once on money wages from the day of arrival, and to perform full tasks.

4. The tasks for the lowest description of field labour is 10 *d.* sterling, and when six of these tasks are finished in one week, the remuneration is raised to 1 *s.* 0½ *d.*, or 25 per cent. additional; this increase is given with a view of securing continuous labour: to attempt the same by punishment, as suggested by Mr. Caird in his letter to the Emigration Commissioners of the 8th April 1857, has been found futile in this Colony, where the demand and consequent competition for labour are so great.

5. Many of the labourers perform two tasks daily, and instances are not wanting where the same person does three tasks regularly. The latter cases are rare, but show what may be done by skilled hands: as it not unfrequently happens that a coolie finishes his own work, and his wife's, and is home by four o'clock in the afternoon, it may be safely affirmed that any labourer with ordinary industry can earn 2 *s.* sterling per day, in addition to house-room, garden, medical attendance, and other provisions of the local Government for his comfort.

6. The above is the lowest rate of wages for healthy adults at field-work; but there are several districts in which, from local causes, the task is paid as high as 1 *s.* 3 *d.*, but, as a general rule, the coolies in these localities do not appear to make more money ultimately than the others.

7. It may be stated in addition to the foregoing, that where coolies who have terminated their industrial residences choose to make fresh contracts for another year, they receive from the proprietor a bonus of 2 *l.* sterling; of these, about 1,300 are at present registered in the office of the Agent General of Immigrants.

8. A general increase in the rate of wages appears to be in process at this moment, owing to the competition for labour resulting from the present high prices of sugar and cocoa, and the quantity of fresh land being brought into cultivation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 6.—

No. 6.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
6 August 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

(No. 73.)

Trinidad, 6 August 1857.
(Received, 31 August 1857.)

Sir. (Answered, No. 102, 14 November 1857, p. 381.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 47, of the 16th June last, transmitting a copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, with a copy of one from Mr. Caird, respecting the arrival in Calcutta of the "Arabia," with return coolies from Trinidad.

2. Mr. Caird states, that the coolies by this vessel were very much dissatisfied with the authorities of Trinidad, for having taken possession of their savings (much against their wishes as they said) and remitted the same to India by a Commissariat order, by which arrangement, he states they were losers to the extent of *Rs.* 2,320. 3. 10. The deposit of their monies by these coolies with the Agent General of Immigrants was purely optional on their part, as may be gathered from the annexed extract from the report of that officer, dated 18 October 1856, and was made so, as he informs me, at the express desire of Sir Charles Elliot, who, while limiting the measure to those who chose to avail themselves of it, approved of it as a most desirable safeguard against all contingent risks; and this

this appears from your Despatch, No. 12, of the 14th February last, and the correspondence it enclosed, to be the opinion also of the Emigration Commissioners. It was to the advantage of the coolies, moreover, as those among them who were unprovided with dollars could not procure them at the time, as I am informed, at a lower rate than eight per cent., an expense they were not likely to incur on any exchange transaction. Only a few of the older coolies held their earnings in Spanish dollars, coins now rare in this island; the remainder deposited their gains in the currency of the country, namely, five dollar notes, convertible, not into five Spanish coin of that denomination, but five sums of 4*s.* 2*d.* each, British silver, and occasionally copper. These sums were paid into the hands of the Commissary General, who, in return, furnished a draft on London for the full amount in British sterling. The loss on exchange must therefore have occurred at some ulterior stage of the transaction, of which no particulars have yet reached me.

That this Colony should make good any loss really sustained by the coolies on the transmission of these monies to India is a matter on the policy and justice of which no two opinions can exist. It is greatly to be regretted that the return coolies by the "Arabia" should have incurred any loss, but I trust that, whatever it may really be, for I cannot help thinking Mr. Caird must have been imposed upon as to its amount by the precautions he has taken, it will prove to be only temporary. It is at the same time a subject of satisfaction, that the solicitude shown here for the comfort and health of these immigrants should have resulted in their all arriving safely at Calcutta.

3. With reference to the best mode of providing against the recurrence of such losses, I have received from British Guiana a copy of the Despatch addressed to you by Governor Wodehouse on the subject, marked No. 91, and dated 9th July, in which he suggests a plan for doing so; this, he thinks, may be applicable to this Colony as well as to British Guiana. He proposes first, that the coolie should be credited with one dollar for each 4*s.* 2*d.* paid in to the colonial authorities in cash or colonial notes, and in addition with the premium payable on silver dollars when his savings are actually paid in that coin. By the word "one dollar," I presume him, in fact, to mean 4*s.* 2*d.*, and not an amount fluctuating according to the premium payable on silver dollars. Whatever may be the case, as regards British Guiana, I do not see why in Trinidad the word "dollar" should come into play at all in any transactions between the local Government and the coolies. All Government accounts are here kept in sterling, the wages of labourers are paid in sterling, and if by any accident a coolie receives a silver dollar in payment from his employer, he receives it at its legal value of 4*s.* 2*d.* It is optional to him to keep it, or to dispose of it for what it will fetch. He can, if he likes, deposit at the treasury the coin itself at 4*s.* 2*d.*, or the amount in sterling he may have made by the sale of it. I cannot see that in the former case the Government authorities are in any way bound to make up to him the difference between the rate at which he received the coin in payment for his services, and that at which he might have disposed of it in the market if he had chosen to do so. Should a coolie from that predilection for silver dollars which distinguishes his class, become a purchaser of them, he generally suffers a loss; why is the Government to make up this loss to him if he afterwards chooses to pay into the treasury those very dollars which he has purchased, and on which, by his own act he has suffered a loss, instead of disposing of them first, and then paying in what they fetch in sterling? If such a course was adopted, the Government would soon become the purchaser at a loss of all the few silver dollars in the island; it would then re-issue them at the legal rate of 4*s.* 2*d.*, and again become the purchaser of them at a loss from the coolies according as they deposited their savings; for they would not take the trouble to dispose of them elsewhere when the treasury would be a sure market. The coolies themselves would be no gainers by the Government loss, except when, by accident, they may have come into possession of silver dollars in payment of wages at the legal rate of 4*s.* 2*d.* instead of purchasing them. I cannot but suspect that Mr. Caird, in computing the losses stated to have been incurred by the coolies by the "Arabia," has considered the word dollar as representing a certain silver coin bearing generally a premium in Trinidad, instead of its being merely a more convenient expression of an amount of money

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called in English 4*s.* 2*d.* By discarding the word dollar altogether in such transactions this confusion would be obviated.

4. Mr. Wodehouse then proposes that the money should be paid over to the Commissariat Department, at the rate of 4*s.* 2*d.* per dollar, and that the Colonial Government should then assume that it had purchased a credit on India for exactly the number of dollars (meaning, I suppose, at 4*s.* 2*d.*) due to the coolies. It would be better, so far as Trinidad is concerned, that the Government should assume that it had purchased a credit in India for exactly the amount in sterling English money due to the coolies. "This having been done," Governor Wodehouse says, "the officer entrusted with the duty of making the payments in India should be instructed to pay to the coolie, or his representative, the value in rupees of the number of dollars with which he has been credited here." As regards Trinidad, it should be "the value in rupees of the amount in sterling with which he has been credited here;" and if the rate of exchange as between rupees and British sterling should be against the coolie at the time of his arrival in India, the officer in question should be authorised to advance the difference, which, upon report being made, should at once be made good through the Commissariat as before. With these alterations, the proposal of Governor Wodehouse seems to me to suit the circumstances of this Colony. This arrangement, however, I propose, under the understanding that it is still to be optional with the coolie to take his savings with him in specie on his person, or under the charge of the master of the vessel in which he sails, which, if he retains the impression that at whatever price he may buy silver dollars here he will not only be able to recoup himself, but also to get a profit in India, he will probably still be inclined to do, in the face of all the risks attending such a mode of transmitting his savings. If, however, it is thought desirable to guard him absolutely against these risks by ensuring to him the profit he expects to make by braving them, I think it might be done by a separate account being kept of the names and deposits of all those who pay in their savings actually in silver dollars, and a copy of it being sent to India; the amount of these deposits, computed at the ordinary rate of 4*s.* 2*d.* per dollar, being of course included in the credit assumed to be purchased, in the manner already detailed, in India, for the whole amount of money due. The officer who makes the payments in India should then be authorised to advance the difference between the 4*s.* 2*d.* and the price which silver dollars fetch there at the time of the coolie's arrival, and to report thereon in the same way as with regard to the exchange between rupees and British sterling, in order that it may be made good to him, as in the other case, through the medium of the Commissariat.

5. I regret, sir, that at the time your first Despatch on this subject, No. 12, of the 14th February, reached me, I was so ill as to be unable to do more than enclose to you the report of the Agent General of Immigrants upon it.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

— No. 7. —

No. 7.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 6 August 1857.

(No. 74.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P. &c. &c. &c.

Trinidad, 6 August 1857.
(Received, 31 August, 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 97, 9 November 1857, p. 376.)

Enclosure 1.

I SHOULD have been glad to have been able to forward to you the enclosed Report of the Standing Committee of Council on Immigration in my Despatch No. 41,* of the 5th June, in which I made application for the number of immigrants required for the ensuing year, and stated the measures proposed to be adopted

* *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 337.

adopted for meeting the expense of their introduction; but though it was then in preparation, it was only laid upon the council table on the 1st instant. The necessity of acquainting you without delay with the requirements of the planters in this respect was so apparent that I was unwilling to wait till I could support their views, even by a document showing as fully and forcibly, as this report does, the position of the Colony in regard to the question of labour. I take this opportunity also of transmitting a copy of the Annual Report of the Agent General of Immigrants for 1856, which had been referred to the Standing Committee of Council on Immigration before my arrival in the Colony, and in which many of the statements contained in the report of the latter are corroborated and set forth in greater detail. Enclosure 2.

2. The calculations as to the extent of land under cultivation in the island, and the number of agricultural labourers working for wages, with which the report of the committee commences, must be taken as approximative only, as there exists at present no machinery for obtaining accurate statistical information of this nature. An Ordinance for supplying this defect has been introduced into Council, and considerable progress made towards maturing it. I trust, therefore, that in future years the pages of the Blue Book which are devoted to this inquiry, will be more effectually filled in than I observe is the case at present. The calculations referred to, however, are sufficiently near the truth to serve as a basis for, and in illustration of, the conclusions arrived at by the committee.

3. These conclusions resolve themselves into five substantive propositions: 1st. That this Colony, in common with other English Colonies, should be allowed access to a source of labour which appears to be open to all the rest of the world. China: On this point the concluding observations in your Despatch, No. 53,* of the 24th June, have given great satisfaction to the Board of Council, to whom I communicated them at their last meeting. I may say, too, that since the date of the report of the Agent General of Immigrants, which contains much valuable information on this subject, a growing tendency has been remarked among the Chinese to connect themselves with the women of the country; and I learn that quite lately two marriages between Chinamen and creole females have been celebrated, at which large bodies of the former were present, taking great interest in the proceedings.

* *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 294.

4. The 2d proposition is, that the right to return passages, now reserved to Indian immigrants, should eventually, though of course not suddenly, be done away with. The extension of the period of industrial residence from five to ten years is likely, I think, practically to bring about a near approach to this, and even at this moment, among those coolies who came in under the old conditions, and whose time is nearly out, great indisposition exists to state positively whether they intend to take advantage of the opportunity which will be offered to them to return to their country, as soon as the vessel I applied for for that purpose in my Despatch, No. 36, of the 23d May, arrives. This, of itself, shows how little cause there really exists, so far at least as this Colony is concerned, for the fears expressed by the East Indian Government and the Court of Directors, as I am informed by your Despatch, No. 14,† of the 3d March, either in regard to coolies being hampered by their engagements as their time for leaving the island approaches, or being kept in it against their wishes beyond the period when their reserved right accrues. The probability rather is, that the vessel I am expecting will go away without its complement of return coolies, in consequence of those for whom it is intended electing, at the last moment, to stay and take the bounty of 2 *l.*, which is payable under Ordinance No. 7, of the year 1855, to such of them as re-engage themselves for a period of one year. There are now 1,270 coolies, whose industrial residence is terminated, but who are working under this arrangement, in many instances with the annexed condition, that should a ship leave for Calcutta before the expiry of the year, their indentures are to be cancelled at their desire, leaving them on the same footing as their fellows. In framing an Ordinance, therefore, for securing the payment of six dollars for every six months that elapse between the period when the right to a return passage accrues and that at which it is offered, care must be taken to prevent its clashing with this arrangement, and becoming a premium upon idleness and vagabondage.

† *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 291.

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vagabondage. It is worthy of consideration also, whether it would not be desirable to give to the local Government some power in regard to the selection and chartering of ships for securing these return passages, as the Agent General on the spot would always be able to give the preference to such masters and vessels as have previously distinguished themselves by success in this service, and so to time the departures as may be most advantageous to the coolies, and least hurtful to their employers. I would take this opportunity of submitting, whether it would not be desirable also, and more convenient to the parties concerned, if, for the future, the freights on the ships bringing coolies were made payable on their arrival in this Colony than, as at present, by remittances hence through the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners. I understand this mode of paying the freights is in practice in Demerara. On one only of the points touched upon in your Despatch does legislation appear to be absolutely required here, that, namely, which has reference to the collection and transmission to their relatives in India of the effects of deceased coolies. Some difficulties, I learn, occurred on one occasion in making arrangements for effecting this; and it seems desirable, therefore, that the Agent General of Immigrants should be made administrator-general of the estates of coolies dying intestate; but I defer all further observations on this or the other points which form the subject matter of your Despatch till I can forward to you copies of the Ordinances which are in course of preparation, in accordance with your instructions concerning them, and of a special report which the Standing Committee of Council on Immigration have informed me it is their intention to make upon them.

5. The 3d proposition of the Committee is, that this Colony should be allowed a greater share in the collection and selection of its own immigrants. As an additional argument in favour of some such plan being adopted as that proposed in the report, I may mention as showing the confusion calculated to arise from the present system, that the greater portion of the coolies who have arrived this year in Trinidad were under the impression that they had been shipped for Demerara. It is evident too, to me at least, from the correspondence which has lately passed concerning the losses said to have been sustained by the return coolies by the "Arabia," that there exists on the part of Mr. Caird some want of accurate knowledge as to local circumstances in Trinidad.

6. The 4th proposition is, that vessels bringing coolies should be allowed to carry at least the same proportion of them to their tonnage as they are allowed to carry of European soldiers; and the 5th, that indentures of five years' duration should be sanctioned. On the former, I do not venture to offer any remarks, as the considerations which have led to a different proportion being maintained in an adverse ratio to what might have been expected are not very well known to me, and must be too peculiar in their nature to admit of their being guessed at; as to the latter, it certainly appears to me that the system of remunerating labour by the task at a generally recognised rate, instead of by the day, for and against which much may be said, but which has struck so deep a root in the customs of this place that it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to change it, has upset some portion of the considerations on which the superiority of shorter over longer contracts of service have been sought to be established in theory. There is now, as far as I can see, no inducement to a labourer here to change his employer after his three years' indenture has expired, unless for ill-usage, against which he has his remedy, or from caprice: a motive which would operate against the enforcement of any contract of service beyond a day's duration; but there is sometimes an inducement to an employer to get rid of his labourer, but only in cases where no other employer would be very ready to engage him. The advanced age at which some of the immigrants are sent from India renders it desirable that the estates to which they are allotted on their arrival should be prevented from throwing off all responsibility for their maintenance after they have had the benefit of their services for three years. I think, under all the circumstances of the case, the best provision would be a five years' indenture, terminable at the end of the third or fourth year by *bonâ fide* mutual consent, or the payment of a certain sum in commutation of the remainder of the term, as is the case now with regard to the two remaining years of industrial residence, or on a good reason being shown to the satisfaction of the Government by either party to the contract.

7. There

7. There are some other points in which alterations in the existing Immigration Ordinance, No. 24 * of 1854, have been suggested by the Agent General of Immigrants and other members of the Standing Committee, which will be more conveniently discussed when they are embodied in an Ordinance, which I propose should be introduced and carried through its earlier stages, and be submitted to you for consideration before it is finally passed into a law.

* *Vide* papers presented Aug. 1857, p. 458.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 7.

Encl. 1, in No. 7.

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THE Standing Committee of Council on Immigration beg to report that they have met from time to time, and taken into consideration the several matters and papers referred to them, and have agreed to the following report:—

The subject of immigration, always of great interest to the island, has recently acquired increased importance.

It may be not without advantage to consider the circumstances which have recently increased and will increase the demand for labour, and those which tend to withdraw from the colony a portion of its present labourers—the sources from which a supply of labour may be obtained, and the facilities which may be afforded by the Government to promote such supply—and lastly, the alterations which it would be advisable to make in the laws regulating the condition of immigrants after their arrival in this Colony.

The extent of all the lands now under cultivation in this island is about 52,807 acres. Of these may be classed as sugar plantations 34,059 acres, including those portions of the plantations which are in pasture. Of the remaining 18,748 acres, 11,481 are in cocoa or coffee, and 7,267 in provisions. The entire number of agricultural labourers working for wages in the cultivation of sugar and cocoa during the last crop, did not exceed 14,000. Of these, 7,927 persons are immigrants from India and China, introduced at the public expense. The remainder are persons of African descent. Of the immigrants, but a very few are employed in any cultivation except that of sugar. On their first arrival they are allotted to sugar plantations almost exclusively; and those who, after the completion of their terms of industrial residence, do not betake themselves to trades or other occupations not agricultural, continue, either from the formation of local ties, or induced by a higher rate of wages, to work in the cultivation of sugar. The whole number of labourers employed in the production of sugar, and exclusive of those employed on cocoa or coffee plantations, may be taken at 12,000 persons, distributed on 158 different plantations, and producing an annual average return of 30,000 tons of sugar, with a corresponding proportion of molasses and rum. The return of cocoa may be taken at 25,000 bags. The value of the sugar, rum, molasses, and cocoa exported from the colony during the crop of this year is not less than 1,500,000 *l.* sterling. The available labour now within the Colony is barely sufficient to maintain this production. It is quite insufficient to allow of any increase. The present high price of sugar and cocoa has however caused, and will continue to cause, an increase in the extent of new lands brought into cultivation. The result has been a great competition for labour, with a present increase, and a tendency to a still greater increase of wages. There would be nothing to regret in such an increase founded on the larger profits of the proprietor, and accompanying an increase of production. But in the present circumstances of the colony, with a restricted supply of labour, the increase of wages has not the effect of bringing more labourers into the field. As regards the labourer of African descent, he will not be stimulated to greater industry by higher wages. He will be satisfied to earn by the labour of two days, what he has hitherto earned by the labour of four days, a sufficiency for his weekly support. As regards the immigrants from India, the result will only be a removal of labourers not under indenture from the older to new lands. But the production of the new lands will not be sufficient to compensate for the diminished production on the older estates. From these all the labour not under indenture will be withdrawn. The indentured labour still retained on the older lands, which it will however be insufficient to maintain at their maximum of cultivation, will be prevented from transferring itself to the newer lands, where it might be more profitably employed. That the increase in the production of the island has been hitherto proportionate to the increase of labour is not to be denied. But the present supply of new labour is scarcely more than sufficient to make good the loss occasioned by the return of immigrants, and the gradual diversion of labour to other industries not strictly agricultural.

The capabilities of this island are such that they would easily repay the expense of introducing any number of labourers for which the soil could find employment. It would be a source of regret if such capabilities were to be left neglected and undeveloped by the only element of wealth of which we stand in need. There are circumstances, however, involving larger interests than the local interests of a colony which may justify the hope that the Government of the mother country will be led to give a very decided assistance to the increase of our labouring population.

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The present high price of sugar and other colonial produce can be diminished only by an increase of supply. This increased supply may be furnished very easily by Trinidad, if the only means of production which she requires be furnished to her. The capabilities of the island—the fertility of its soil—the facility with which lands may be cleared and brought under cultivation—and the adaptation of its various portions to the various kinds of colonial produce—are even yet but little known beyond its own limits.

The whole surface of the island contains about 1,250,000 acres. Its greatest elevation does not exceed 3,100 feet. The northern side of the island is traversed from east to west by a range of hills, the southern slopes of which rise suddenly from the plains. Of these hills the gorges and valleys are cultivated in cocoa, in some places to their very summits. Between the southern slopes of this range of hills and the river Caroni, which empties itself into the Gulf of Paria, lies a plain varying with the windings of the river from three to four miles in width. Of this plain, notwithstanding its fertility, a large portion on the northern bank of the river has not yet been brought into cultivation. From the southern bank of the Caroni sweeps from north to south, in a reach of 64 miles along the Gulf of Paria, a plain perhaps unequalled for fertility in the world. The northern or upper part of this plain is backed by a low range of hills called "Montserrat," capable of sugar cultivation to their summits, at distances ranging from seven to eight miles from the sea. Of this plain only a comparatively narrow strip along a portion of the shore of the Gulf of Paria has yet been cleared. In the district of the Naparimas, the very richest of the island, the cultivation does not extend beyond eight miles from the coast. Between those portions of the districts of the Naparimas and Couva which have been brought under cultivation and the eastern coast of the island, lies a tract of undulating land of about 30 miles in width by 40 in breadth, all capable of cultivation, and of which many portions are of extreme fertility. But with the exception of a very few estates immediately on the eastern coast, which have been lately abandoned for want of labour, no part of this plain has yet been cleared of the forest. This partial cultivation is to be ascribed solely to the deficiency of labour. It is asserted, and without any exaggeration, that the lower grounds of the island, with a supply of labour in the proportion of one man to five acres of cultivated ground, would easily produce sugar more than equal to the present consumption of Great Britain. Of capital there would be no deficiency; nor would the capital necessary for the development of our resources, beyond that required for immigration, be very great; for equal to the fertility of the soil is the facility with which lands are brought into cultivation. The establishment of a sugar estate in this island does not require the heavy outlay in drainage and in the formation of canals, which presents an obstacle to the opening of new lands in Demerara. Here the land may be cleared of timber and planted, and its first crop of sugar taken off within 18 months. The expense of establishing on virgin land an estate capable of producing 250 hogsheads of sugar, including the cost of machinery and buildings, would not exceed 6,000*l.* sterling. The Colony is beyond the range of hurricanes, nor is it subject to those droughts and injuries from vermin which often baffle the planter in other West Indian islands.

We cannot but hope that the state of the markets all over the world must force on the attention of the Government the value and importance of this Colony, and the resources which she offers to supply the growing demand for colonial produce. There are also other circumstances which seem to us calculated to increase the importance of this Colony in the consideration of the Government, and to confer on it a new political as well as commercial value. We allude to the discovery within the last few weeks of coal within the island; to the exertions now in progress to render the bitumen of the Pitch Lake available as an article of commerce; and to the recent exploration of the gold field in the district of Venezuela, on the northern bank of the Orinoco, called Uriali. A report on the coal measures at Punto Nero, on the eastern coast of the island, has been lately made by Mr. Sawkins, one of the Government geologists, to his Excellency the Governor, and has been laid before the Board of Council. Should the expectations to which this discovery has given rise be justified by further inquiry, it is impossible to overrate the value of the coal, not only in a commercial point of view as regards the internal consumption of the island, but in a more general view as regards the naval preponderance in these seas, and the political interests of the mother country. The Pitch Lake had long been an object of curiosity; its product must eventually become valuable as a fuel, and there is reason to believe that, under the patent lately granted to Mr. Hiram Hyde, it will be made to render lubricating oils of the highest quality, and in quantities sufficient to supply a demand which is daily increasing with the increase of machinery all over the world.

The report of Dr. Plassard seems calculated to throw some doubt on the value of the gold field; but the experience of those inhabitants of this island who have visited it, lead to a belief that the field will prove very rich. The locality may be unhealthy, the difficulty of obtaining water may be great, but if the quantity of gold be such as it has in this island been reported to be, there is no doubt that this field must become a scene of considerable interest. In this event the position of Trinidad will give to it great advantages in a commercial point of view, not only as an emporium from which the diggers will draw their supplies, but as regards the purchase and shipment of the ore for the English market. But whether the field should eventually turn out productive and remunerative of the labour to be employed on it or not, there can be no doubt that it must for some considerable time at least draw to it a not unimportant share of the population of the island. It may be possible by a vigilant police to prevent the escape of immigrants still under indentures, although there is no doubt that already coolies have escaped to the opposite coast of Venezuela, tempted by the high rate of wages offered by the growers of provisions. But those coolies who,

who, having completed their term of industrial residence, have hitherto been induced, by the payment of bounties, to enter from year to year into contracts for a further term of residence, will undoubtedly be lost, at least for a time, to the Colony. The number of coolies now in the island who have completed an industrial residence of five years is not less than 2,950, of whom 1,250 have entered voluntarily into contracts for further residence. On their labour, as that of men skilled and habituated to the climate, the planter very greatly depends. This withdrawal of labour it will be impossible to prevent. It will depend on Her Majesty's Government whether this loss shall be supplied by an increased introduction of immigrants or not.

The labour which we should for every reason prefer for the Colony is to be drawn from China and the British possessions in the East Indies. The supply which may be obtained from India is most abundant and entirely under the control of Government. A distinct expression of the wishes of the Government on the subject would procure for the West India Colonies any amount of labour, the expense of which they might be prepared to defray. So far as regards Trinidad, any charge for immigration will be readily met by the payment of the premiums on indentures of labour, and an annual duty on exports proportioned to the annual introduction of new labour. The emigration of Chinese labourers to the West Indies was opposed by Sir John Bowring as contrary to the laws of China, and as tending to complicate the relations of the English Government with the Government of that country. It is of course impossible for us to say what was the real worth of these objections. But the agriculturists of the West Indies have seen, not without some feelings of bitterness, that the supply of labour from China, diverted from the English Colonies, has not ceased to flow, and even from Hong Kong, and in English vessels, to California and Australia, and into Cuba and other foreign Colonies, whilst the utter want of supervision over this immigration has led to the greatest horrors. Whatever the jealousies or difficulties on the part of the Chinese authorities may have been, we cannot but hope that, whenever peace may be restored between England and China, provision will be made to open to the English Colonies, under the supervision of English authorities, a source of labour already open, as it appears, to all the rest of the world. The value to this Colony of a supply of Chinese labourers, under certain conditions, cannot be over-estimated. Of those already introduced many have, indeed, displayed, during the earlier portion of their residence, that fearful recklessness of life, which is one of their national characteristics; nor would it be prudent to introduce them in large bodies at a time, nor to place them on their first introduction in numbers in the same locality; but, distributed somewhat widely on their first arrival, they would become a most valuable addition to our population. Experience has shown them to be intelligent, industrious, and persevering. Of those who were introduced into the Colony in 1853 many have already purchased their discharge from indented labour. They have passed from labourers in the field into the class of jobbers, artisans, and small shopkeepers; a large portion of the retail trade of the rural districts is in their hands. It is within the knowledge of your Committee that one Chinaman, who was indented to the "Jordan Hill" Estate, in the year 1853, is now a shopkeeper with a capital of at least 3,000 dollars, and commands a mercantile credit to the extent of 5,000 dollars. That the Chinese introduced into this Colony have, as a body, been gainers by the change there is no doubt; we therefore sincerely trust that the immigration of Chinese may be renewed. Considering the expense at which the experiment of 1853 was tried, and the other reasons to which we have referred, we are of opinion that the annual supply of this class of labour should be limited; yet we are satisfied that the Colony could in each year, without difficulty, meet the expense of introducing, and without risk find employment for 500 Chinese immigrants.

The great sources of supply, however, to which we look are the British possessions in the East Indies. That not only the increased production of the Colony since emancipation, but that its very existence, social and political, is to be attributed to the immigration from India, may be deduced from the proportion which the number of immigrants, labourers in agriculture, bears to the number of labourers of African descent. In 1834 there were 11,051 prædial, and 4,708 non-prædial apprentices. In the course of 23 years there must have been an increase of births. Since the emancipation not less than 20,000 persons of African descent have been introduced into the Colony at the public expense, either from other West India Colonies or from the coast of Africa; yet, of the whole number of labourers employed in the production of the staples of this island, it is estimated that not more than 6,000 are of African descent; nor can this falling off be accounted for by the supposition that they have gradually emerged into higher occupations; so far is this from being the case, that those occupations have been gradually wrested from them by Chinese and Indian immigrants. Nor can it be accounted for by the supposition that they are employed in supplying the markets of the island with provisions raised by their industry on their own lands; so far is this from being the case, that Trinidad derives the greater part of the maize, plantains, and yams which it consumes from Venezuela and the island of Grenada.

The conclusion, however unsatisfactory, seems unavoidable, that of the emancipated population and their descendants three-fourths contribute little to the production of the Colony, beyond the food which they themselves consume, and nothing to its exportable produce. The future development of the resources of the island must therefore depend mainly on the introduction of labourers from the East. The total number of coolies introduced at the public expense, from 1845 to the 30th June of this year, is 11,458. The cost, including the charge for return passages, and the expenses of management both in India and in this island, amounts to about 233,000 *l*. Of these 11,458 immigrants, only 5,180

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are now under indenture. This great disproportion between the number introduced and the number now available as labourers, is to be ascribed almost exclusively to the right reserved to the Indian immigrant of a return passage at the public expense, on the expiration of a fixed term of residence. We believe that this right is founded on a false policy. It would be not only a great diminution of expense to the Colony, but, as we conceive, a benefit to the coolie himself, if he were taught to regard his change of residence as permanent. It is evident that this want of fixity tends to prevent many of those advantages which the coolie would otherwise derive from his change of residence. It tends also to create despondency in those who would otherwise exert themselves to improve his moral character. Looking ever to a return to India, he retains the habits and prejudices of the country where he was born, and from which he believes that his absence is only temporary. He does not identify himself with the population around him, nor does he admit the religious instruction which is offered to him. We can, however, easily understand that there may be some jealousy on the part of the Indian authorities to the removal of this condition; nor are we unaware that emigration from India might be checked by the sudden removal of the condition. The concession recently made by which the period of residence has been lengthened from five to ten years, is liberal, as we believe it to be wise; and we gladly take this opportunity to express our great satisfaction at the negative put by the Government on the suggestion of Mr. Thompson, to reduce the term of residence back to five years. Any further modification of the condition must be left to time and experience. The division of the term of residence into two terms; the first under indenture, the second freed from indenture, is, we believe, well calculated to effect the object which we have in view—the eventual retention of the coolie in his new abode. But so long as this right to a return passage remains, it is evident that the annual supply of labour must be proportionately higher. This supply we cannot place at less than 5,000 for the ensuing year, to be followed by a regular annual supply of not less than 3,000 coolies in addition to 500 Chinese. The difficulties which have hitherto occurred in meeting the more limited demand for labour may lead to the supposition that this greater demand cannot be met; but the information within our reach induces us to believe, that, even under the present superintendence, a greater supply of labour might be obtained; and that, with such changes in the superintendence and the regulations as we shall propose, any demand for labour which the annual revenue of the Colony could afford might be readily and easily satisfied, and at perhaps a proportionately smaller cost. On the question of the facility of obtaining immigrants from India, we have taken the evidence of the masters of the ships "Adelaide," "Sir George Seymour," "Eveline," "Granville," and "Scindian." We understand them all to concur in the conclusion that there is no difficulty in obtaining immigrants. They go so far as to state that three or four times the number of vessels now despatched might be despatched from Calcutta alone. This statement seems to be supported by the fact, that the French Colonies of Martinique and Guadaloupe have hitherto found no difficulty in procuring coolies in large numbers through Pondicherry, as it is alleged from the very limited possessions of France in the East Indies. We have no doubt that everything that can be done by one superintendent is done by Mr. Caird. There may be impediments in his way which it is difficult for him to explain, and which it would be impossible for us, at this distance from India, and in our ignorance of the habits and peculiarities of the natives, to appreciate; but we think that further assistance might be given to Mr. Caird. We do not recommend that any attempt should be made to prevail on the Government of the East Indies to sanction immigration in private vessels and at private expense. Any immigration not subjected to the control of public superintendents, and to the strictest regulations, would be open to abuse; and it is but just that every precaution should be taken to place the coolie beyond the greed or fraud of individuals; but we would recommend that this Colony should be allowed to name agents resident at the different Presidencies, who, under the supervision of the superintendents appointed by the Government in India, might be allowed to act specially and exclusively in the interests of this island. It would be the duty of these agents to procure volunteers for Trinidad, and their remuneration from the funds of the Colony would be proportioned to the number of persons whom they might despatch. Any possibility of misrepresentation or unfairness would be avoided by subjecting all contracts with immigrants to the supervision of the Government superintendents, by requiring an inspection of the immigrants previous to their embarkation, and by not allowing them to be embarked except in vessels, and under charterparties in vessels, of which the Government superintendents should have approved. The additional cost of these agents would, of course, fall exclusively on this island. It is to be expected that this example, if allowed, would be followed by Demerara and other Colonies; and it may be objected that the competition of several agents, each pursuing the interests of a separate Colony, might lead to evil results. The chief evil would be the danger of the agents endeavouring to outbid one the other in the bounties to the head men and to the immigrants; but this evil would find a check in the inability of the Colonies to bear the cost of such a competition, and a limit might be imposed by the Government on the amount of bounties. The best security would, however, be found in the good sense of the different Colonies. Nor would there be any necessity for such a competition if, as we are led to believe, the number of persons willing to emigrate is such as to supply every reasonable demand of the West Indian Colonies for labour. There would, of course, be an increased annual charge on the funds of the Colony to maintain the increased immigration which we have suggested. This increase, however, would not be in proportion to the charge hitherto borne by the Colony if the suggestions which we shall offer be adopted. We are fully alive to the danger and wickedness

wickedness as well as to the impolicy of overcrowding; but when we find it stated in the evidence of the master of the "Adelaide" that the same vessel which carried 445 persons, of whom 75 were soldiers, on a contract with the Government from England to the Swan River, is permitted to take on board not more than 284 Indian immigrants on a voyage from Calcutta to this Colony, we cannot but believe that the regulation which fixes the proportion of passengers to tonnage errs on the side of unnecessary caution. In the charterparty of the "Arabia," of 1,126 tons, on a voyage with return coolies from this island to Calcutta, she was actually limited to 250 adults. We suggest that this regulation should be relaxed to the limit which is deemed safe for English troops. Such a relaxation would necessarily lead to a proportionate diminution in the cost of transport. In making this suggestion, we are anxious at once to obviate the notion that the loss of life which has taken place this year among the immigrants from Calcutta has been in any degree caused by overcrowding. The cause has been very different. There can, we think, be no doubt that the loss has been due altogether to the change in the diet of the coolies, by which an allowance of 8 ounces of biscuit and 12 ounces of rice was substituted for 20 ounces of rice, and in the alteration in the internal fittings of the vessels. In this conclusion all the masters and surgeons examined are unanimous. The masters can have no personal interest to oppose the change in diet which Mr. Caird thought it but fair to meet by an increased allowance of two rupees for each coolie. We recommend that the substitution of biscuit should be discontinued, and the former dietary restored. We would also recommend that every vessel carrying immigrants should, if it is possible, have on board a native compounder, as an assistant and interpreter to the English medical officer. The evidence of the surgeons whom we have examined supports the propriety of this suggestion. We would also press on the attention of Government the expediency of appointing general agents, with such additional assistants as we have suggested, in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay. The immigration from Madras has ceased since 1847, and unfortunately so. The immigrants from that Presidency, though perhaps not so docile or tractable as those from Calcutta, are at least as industrious, and a more able-bodied class of people.

We observe that Mr. Hart, the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, in a Despatch dated 14th February 1847, of which a copy was laid before the Board of Council of this island, states, "That to encourage emigration would not, under existing circumstances, be conducive to the good either of the Presidency or of the persons who might be induced to emigrate, for whom there is ample and remunerative occupation at home." We may be permitted to doubt the justice of this conclusion. We can easily understand an objection to any diminution of the labour, the excess of which renders all public works in India less costly; but if the interest of the Indian is to be considered, we believe that he lives in Trinidad under a Government not less just, nor less jealous in its protection of his person and of his rights, than that of India; and, in a pecuniary point of view, the large sums carried away by immigrants returning to India prove that their industry in this Colony is not less well rewarded than it would be in their own country. In the case of the return passengers by the "Bucephalus" and the "Shand" in 1854, the savings which 400 people carried with them amounted to $45,000. We venture to hope that any attempt to preclude the Indian from his freedom of movement, and his right to seek a higher remuneration for his labour wherever he may see fit, is out of question in these days.

It remains for us to point out those alterations which experience in the working of the Ordinance No. 24 of 1854 has suggested to us. The first and most important of these is, that the immigrants should be indentured in the first instance for the whole term of their industrial residence of five years instead of three years. There is undoubtedly much which, in theory, recommends the provision now in force. It appears to secure to the immigrant a greater freedom in the choice of his employer; but it has one evil consequence. At the end of the three years the employer avails himself of the opportunity to get rid, by refusing to accept re-indentures, of those coolies who, from ill-health or accident, are less valuable as labourers. The coolies thus rejected are thrown out of employment in a country where there is as yet no statutory provision for the maintenance of the poor. Now it seems to us that, the coolies being distributed in the first instance with all possible fairness of classification, each allottee ought, during the whole term of industrial residence, to run the risk of any one of the number allotted to him becoming incapable of work. There is no other alternative except to throw the coolie for his support on the general immigration fund. The change which we propose is suggested, not in the interest of the individual employer, but in that of the immigrant. Against any injustice or ill-treatment by his employer, the coolie will have, during the additional period of two years, the same protection which he has during the first three, in the power of the Governor to cancel his indentures and transfer his services to another employer.

We would also suggest that, where any coolie is maimed, or otherwise rendered less capable of labour by any accident from machinery or otherwise occurring during the course of his employment, his maintenance should be made a charge on the plantation on which the accident may have occurred.

23 July 1857. *Charles W. Warner*, Chairman.

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Encl. 2, in No. 7.

Enclosure 2, in No. 7.

(No. 4.—TRINIDAD.)

IMMIGRATION REPORT for 1856.—Laid before the Council of Government, on 1 April.

Sir, Immigration Office, 1 January 1857.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that during the last quarter of the year 1856 I inspected those wards in which immigrants have been located, with the exception of Chaguanas and Oropouche. The coolies, as a whole, are giving unalloyed satisfaction to their employers, who would willingly engage a much larger number, could they be procured. This preference for Hindoo labour is not based on the fact, that the coolie himself is either as laborious, or as industrious as he might be under existing circumstances, but because his continuous labour of four, five, or six days weekly, during the wet season, can be depended on, and has enabled the struggling planter to prepare crops, which if left entirely to the casual labour of others, would never have been attempted.

The Ordinance 24, 1854, works well, both as regards employers and employed, with the exception of those points already submitted to the Immigration Committee, in July 1856: the results of the deliberation of that committee on the subject are annexed to the present report, and should it become law, will undoubtedly tend to draw closer the ties between the planter and the coolie; these, as already remarked, are on a most satisfactory footing, and fortunately so for the planter, as the decreasing numbers and efficiency of the creole labourers become daily more evident. In fact, the native population, which 20 years since furnished the natural labour for the sugar crop, either exists no longer or has withdrawn itself so completely from the culture of cane, that on taking some weeks since the census of Couva, a quarter once remarkable for the numerical strength of the peasantry attached to the estates, not one of the original number was found on a particular property, where the crop for the current year will probably exceed 400 tons. This is an extreme case, but the majority of estates are practically not much better off with regard to native labour. The adjoining property to the one just mentioned, with a crop of 700 hogsheads to reap, numbers two only of its original creoles.

The direct consequences of this anomalous position, is the urgent cry with which this office is besieged on all quarters for supplies of immigrant labour. The crop of 1858 now in the ground, and which, under average circumstances of season, &c., cannot be reasonably estimated at less than 45,000 hogsheads, depends almost entirely for care and culture on about 5,000 immigrants, or less, when full deduction is made for women and hucksters.

In this Colony there exists no immediate limit to the production of sugar, except the supply of labour, and the preparations for the heavy crop of 1858 were based on the expectation of 3,000 coolies arriving for distribution in 1857. Should any unforeseen difficulties interrupt, as there is reason to fear, this supply of Indian labour, the indirect consequences, which indeed already begin to show themselves, will be strenuous exertions on the part of Trinidad planters to induce a continuous flow of creole labour from St. Vincent and other English Colonies; this attempt will no doubt be in a great measure successful, owing to the critical position of the other Colonies and the comparative prosperity of this. But the ultimate result, while ruinous to them, can only be of doubtful advantage here, as experience shows, that the old island creole labourer, after one or two years' residence in Trinidad, falls into the same idle and desultory habits as the native, with whom freedom is equality, and liberty too often license. The African is much more to be depended on for steady labour than the creole, but it must be according to his own mode. The Yarabah works where he can raise and sell provisions and poultry, and to this all other employment is subordinate. The Congo congregates in gangs, and there only where he is permitted the full enjoyment of his African comforts; trench upon these by school or church, or inculcation of temperance, and he takes himself off to some more congenial quarter. To these characteristics of the free African there may be exceptions, but so rare as to prove the rule. The adult African under indenture, and in good hands, works remarkably well till the close of the year when required to renew his contract; this he does most unwillingly, not that he objects to remaining five years or longer, under the same master, but that he is firmly impressed with the idea, that touching pen and paper consigns him to perpetual slavery, from which the only escape is by absconding.

From the above classes the coolie immigrant differs chiefly in foresight, and the well-disposed among them, who form the great majority, commence saving money from the day of their arrival in the Colony, with a view of returning wealthy to Calcutta at some future day. How far they have succeeded in this respect, the reports of the return ships show.

During the last five years, the coolies from this island have taken back with them to India upwards of $95,000 (dollars), that is, they deposited this amount in the immigration office or treasury, but it is well known that many of them concealed, on embarkation, large sums of gold.

This Colony is peculiarly situated with regard to labour, both as respects the great distance from which it is drawn, and the difficulty of retaining what has been once introduced. The proximity of the Spanish Main, within two hours' sail of the nearest point of Trinidad, furnishes a ready refuge to any labourers who may either dislike their work or the conditions with which it is linked. Of such people there must always be a greater or less number among an apprenticed class, and it is only the joint kindness of the master and the vigilance of the laws which protect the coolie that retain them here. The security of property under the British flag will also induce the money making and well behaved to remain in Trinidad rather than migrate to Venezuela, although instances are not wanting, of even cocoa estates on the Spanish Main being held by coolies. They acquire the Spanish

language

language and manners with facility, and are otherwise not easily distinguished from the true Venezuelan.

Great exertions have been made by the proprietors in this Colony to render it an attractive home to the Indian immigrant.

The wages are liberal for the amount of work performed, varying from 10 *d.* to 15 *d.* per task, averaging not more than five hours in the wet season. These wages are regularly paid as secured by law, and it is customary, in addition, to give free house room and medical attendance, to allow all estates' labourers as much land as they choose to cultivate at their leisure. Many take advantage of this permission and realise large sums by their crops of rice and maize. The practice, however, although extending, is not as general as it might and ought to be, nor can self-denying industry be fairly expected from the agricultural labourer, exposed to every vicissitude of weather, who finds, when wet or exhausted, an abundant supply of cheap rum, perhaps on the very property where he works; in some districts drinking is carried to great excess, but in others it appears to have diminished, and there is some probability, that the calculating habits of the coolie and his love of money would go far towards extinguishing this evil, were it not occasionally the interest of the employer that the coolie should drink the spirit he manufactures. One point at any rate is certain, viz., that the complaints of lost labour from the idleness of indentured servants are more general on estates connected with the manufacture and local sale of rum than elsewhere.

It is no small advantage to the Indian migrating to this Colony, that a wise and liberal provision has been initiated here, in one of the most populous districts, for the instruction of the adult coolie, and the industrial training of the young. "The Tacarigua Indian training school," founded and endowed by a gentleman largely connected with this colony, has been opened under the superintendence of a master well versed in the languages of the Calcutta and Madras Presidencies. In this institution it is proposed to train as many teachers as may be required from time to time by the other districts, till the progress of instruction be extended over the island. In addition to the school, an orphan asylum has been erected in the vicinity by the same party. To this latter, proprietors in different parts of the island have contributed. The building can accommodate 40 inmates, which is more than sufficient to meet the necessities of the Colony for some time to come, and towards its support the Colonial Government has voted from the immigration fund a sum not to exceed ten pounds sterling annually for each inmate. The children are received into this institution at the age of ten years or older, and instructed till the age of 15. As the school has been amply endowed with land, and the training industrial, there is every reason to hope that the benevolent views of the founder will be sufficiently carried out, to the mutual advantage of the Colony and the immigrants.

The Chinese immigration into this Colony, which was at first looked on with rather a dissatisfied eye, appears at present in a different light. With the exception of 43 idlers and invalids, whom no one will indenture, the remaining 614 are almost without exception good workers and giving great satisfaction to their employers; among the latter mentioned there are 60 who have redeemed their terms of service, and are free to work where they please: some of these are hucksters, and by their untiring industry are already driving the Hindoo and Portuguese retailers from the field; others again are gardeners, and though still working on estates, occasionally sell provisions to the amount of 500 *l.* sterling in the course of the year. As a body they have latterly become much more amenable to the laws, and although occasionally breaking their contracts in a most independent manner, they are generally well behaved and industrious, and looked upon by some of the best planters in the Colony as the most efficient class of labourers introduced. Now that they are pretty well versed in the language and manners of the country, acts of violence, which were common between themselves, are more rare. Although addicted to opium, which they can purchase here at a low price, they are for the most part temperate as compared with the coolie. Their most prominent vice, at least the one which entails most inconvenience on their masters, is gambling; to this all are prone; and when a man loses more than he can pay, which is occasionally the case, he immediately absconds to avoid punishment, which is fearfully severe, as the laws of honour authorise the winners to tie up the losing culprit and flog him nearly to death.

Very little intercourse has hitherto taken place between the Chinese and the women of the country, and that little, as I have been informed by the colonial surgeon, generally terminated in an appeal to his mediation. In regard to those Chinese who have bought up their remaining terms of service, the majority are both honest and industrious, and apart from those habits and sentiments peculiar to them as a people, are certainly equal to any race here, not excepting the European. A further introduction of such men, under those modifications of the Chinese Ordinance, which experience has suggested, would aid most materially in developing the resources of this country.

There is one change, however, in the law, whether as regards Hindoo or Chinese, or indeed any other immigrant, most necessary for their own welfare, and that is, restricting their industrial residence for its full term to one employer. Where the law gives the power of changing within that period, it is taken advantage of, not by the immigrant himself, but by those who would profit by his services to their neighbour's wrong. This practice is not uncommon, and breeds much mischief in the Colony. Of course where the indentured servant has grounds for complaint, and the case is different, and employment provided for by the law, which also enables him, if an Indian, at any time after three years' service, and after one year, if a Chinese, to purchase the balance of his time, and there is no immigrant

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in this Colony, who, with common industry, may not have the means of so redeeming his indentures after two or even one year's service.

When the Chinese were first introduced into this Colony there were several reasons why they did not generally satisfy either themselves or their employers; these have been entered on at length in previous reports, and it will suffice to indicate the one whose influence has been longest felt, namely, the exaction of what has been styled "the Chinese advances."

The Chinese immigrants who arrived here per "Australia" in March 1853, had duplicates of agreements which they had signed in China previous to their departure: by these they were bound to work at the rate of four dollars per month, with certain rations, &c., for a term of five years; but the agreements further bore that they were to repay, in this Colony, the sum of 11 dollars 50 cents (which had been advanced to them in China) at the rate of one dollar monthly from their wages. There being no interpreter, a very general misunderstanding ensued between the Chinese and their employers; this was increased by the arrival of the "Clarendon," whose immigrants were engaged at the rate of five dollars per month, with an advance to repay of 10 dollars; finally, the "Lady Flora Hastings" landed men who had been shipped at four dollars per month, with an advance of 11 dollars 50 cents. This difference in the rate of wages, for the same duties in the same districts, led immediately to so much unpleasantness and even violence, that the whole body of Chinese were at their own request placed on wages at the same rate per task as other labourers, they agreeing to repay the advances as soon as they became seasoned to the climate and the work required. Trusting to this, many of the planters advanced, during the first year or two, the full amount of money which their Chinese had to repay. In a very few cases they recovered this, but in the majority they did not; as the people maintained that their wages were insufficient for their bodily wants. This was likely enough, as they generally, as far as food went, fared better than their masters, without much scruple as to the sources whence it was procured. When the masters insisted on repayment some were violent, others took to the woods, a movement against which the efficiency of the rural police was powerless, and the majority finding that by law they were entitled to full wages and rations, provided they were not sick more than 15 days at a time, took to their beds at once, meaning to save their wages by working every fifteenth day; the nights they spent in robbery or gambling for its proceeds. These evils proceeded to such a length that, on some estates the owners prayed that their Chinese might be removed, as being quite beyond control. The question was no longer whether and when, from some of these gangs, the advance was to be repaid, but whether there was any probability of reducing them to the same state of industry as those who had generally acquired more settled habits. Their reputation had preceded them, and it was with considerable difficulty that masters could be found to employ them, partly from their bad character, and partly from the fear of their evil example on the well disposed; because the gentlemen who eventually employed them were those who had succeeded with their own Chinese from the outset. It is pleasant to be able to say now, that these transferred gangs are nearly all working well; but as the masters took them on condition that the *questio vexata* of advances was not to be raised, these monies for the transferred gangs have not been paid. The original number allotted to ten estates and afterwards transferred was 231, now much diminished by death and desertion. On 26 estates originally numbering 533 Chinese, 4,600 dollars have been repaid as advances, being more than an equivalent for what was due on the number remaining attached to them at present; while on nine other estates to whom were assigned 202 Chinese in 1853, there still remain 118 on whom no advance has been repaid, nor is it likely that of a debt so long outstanding, much can be collected now; there is no remedy at law against the employer, and it would be worse than futile to seek one against the servant. The policy of making any advance in future to Chinese labourers appears questionable, if to be deducted from their wages in Trinidad; at least, the experience of this Colony shows that the difficulty of collecting such advances is great, and interferes with the industry of the labourer, and diminishes the good understanding between himself and his master. Had the money been a free gift and its amount charged to the passage or indentures, it would have been to the advantage of all concerned.

During the last year there have been no well-grounded complaints by any of the immigrants, whether Indian or Chinese, against their employers; the few complaints made turned out to be frivolous; they were invariably by new immigrants, ignorant of their duties, and generally incited to the movement by some older hand, in the hopes of increasing his own influence. These complaints were, however, injurious to the interest of the properties on which they occurred, as the coolies, in order to make them, left their work, and travelled sometimes 40 or 50 miles to the immigration office in Port of Spain, while the crop operations of their employers were consequently temporarily cut short, at a ruinous loss. My own experience leads me therefore to believe that, on this and many other accounts, it would be greatly conducive to the public welfare, as well as necessary for the immigrant's comfort and protection, that there should be in every district such local surveillance as would enable the indented servant to make known at once his wants and wishes without leaving the ward to which he is assigned; without such assistance in the distant counties, the central agency will lose somewhat of the efficiency it might otherwise possess. As the five years' industrial residence of those coolies who arrived in 1852 per "Hyderabad," "True Briton," "Eliza Stewart," and "Equestrian," will terminate during the first half of the present year, the number of free coolies in this Colony will be increased fully 800, many of whom will probably wish to return, as the home feelings are always strongest in the coolie who has just terminated his industrial residence. This is not the case in those who are older residents.

dents. Last year, on the arrival of the "Arabia," for return immigrants, although 715 coolies had just terminated their second industrial term of five years, only 97 of that number tendered to make up the "Arabia's" complement.

On this subject it may be remarked in conclusion, as a most important feature in the Trinidad coolie statistics, that the number of women and children who have returned of late years to the East, is in a much greater ratio compared with the males than is the case with arrivals thence.

A recapitulation of the abstracts of immigration laid on the Council table for the years 1855 and 1856 is appended for reference, accompanied by some explanatory remarks.

The Honourable Thomas F. Johnston,
Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

— No. 8. —

(No. 82.)

No. 8.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
21 August 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

Trinidad, 21 August 1857.
(Received, 14 September 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 92, 6 October 1857, p. 375.)

1. YOUR circular Despatch of the 9th January last, transmitting copy of a correspondence between the Emigration Commissioners, the Colonial Office, and the Foreign Office, relative to the appointment of Mr. Miller, the British Consul at the Cape de Verdes islands, as Emigration Agent for Jamaica, and proposing that he should act in the same capacity for the other West India colonies, was accompanied by another of the same date, enclosing a copy of a letter from the Foreign Office, with copy of a Despatch from Mr. Miller, stating that there was at that time no probability of any emigration from the Cape de Verdes islands.

2. Since then two vessels have arrived here, chartered by private parties, bringing 172 Cape de Verdes' immigrants, as I have already informed you in my Despatch, No. 70* of the 4th instant.

* Page 302.

It seems that at the time they were despatched, Mr. Miller was absent from his post, for the contracts of service were signed by another hand, otherwise he would probably have given some previous intimation of the renewal of the emigration. No bounty has yet been proclaimed in this island on the introduction of immigrants from the Cape de Verdes islands, for though, by a resolution of Council, adopted on the 22d September, and communicated to you in my predecessor's Despatch, No. 96† of the 23d October last, it was decided to offer 50 dollars a head on a limited number of such immigrants, and it was intended that a proclamation should issue to that effect, when a likelihood of obtaining them should occur, nothing was done; and Mr. Miller's statement that no such probability existed, put a further stop to every movement in the matter. Much conversation has taken place since the arrival of these labourers as to whether it would now be better to leave this immigration to private enterprise, or to offer a bounty, and also as to what the amount of such bounty should be, if offered. The Messrs. Cavan, I understand, received 60 dollars a head for the immigrants by the "Trym" and the "Penelope" from the estates for which they were introduced, and they would have been content to receive the 50 dollars proposed to be given by the Government if these estates had not accepted them; but from the master of the latter vessel the fact was elicited that no more than 30 dollars was really paid for their passage. I learn from the enclosures in your circular despatch first referred to, that 50 dollars is the amount to be given by Jamaica, and I believe that the same is offered by British Guiana; but, from the statements of the master of the "Penelope," I am inclined to think that 35 dollars per head would be a sufficient bounty to induce shipowners to embark in this undertaking. On this point, as well as upon the general question of the probability of obtaining labourers from these islands, I have put myself into communication with Mr. Miller, for it is evident to me that it is only the larger estates that can be benefited by their introduction being left to private enterprise, and that at an expense which leaves a very large profit to the capitalists who advance the funds for the purpose. The labourers brought by the "Trym" and the "Penelope" are now working well, giving great satis-

† *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 333.

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faction to their employers and making money; and if more could be introduced for general distribution, at a moderate outlay, the sources of Indian immigration would be so far relieved from a portion of the great pressure now put upon them, and this colony would willingly bear its portion of any salary proposed to be given to Mr. Miller for his services as general immigration agent at the islands in question.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

— No. 9. —

No. 9.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
5 September 1857.

(No. 89.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, Esq. M.P.

Trinidad, 5 September 1857.
(Received, 2nd October, 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 126, 16th January 1858, p. 386.)

1. THE decision of the Governor General and Council of India, in regard to the proposed plan of Emigration from Bombay, to be conducted by private parties, notified to me in your Despatch, No. 63* of the 31st July last, has been received with great satisfaction by the planting interest in this Island, and I have been urged by the Standing Committee of Council on Immigration, to lose no time in requesting that the requisite steps may be taken to secure for Trinidad the same privileges in this respect as have been granted to British Guiana.

* *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 296.

2. In the report of the Standing Committee, a copy of which I transmitted to you in my Despatch, No. 74† of 6th August, it was suggested among other things, that a separate emigration agent or collector of emigrants for Trinidad should be stationed under certain conditions, at the several ports in India from which emigration is permitted, and it is now suggested, that if you, Sir, should sanction that proposal, the experiment might be first made at Bombay, in connexion with the present project.

† Page 306.

3. I shall take care that in the Ordinance which is in preparation for amending the present immigration ordinance, every provision shall be made for ensuring the same protection to immigrants who may hereafter be introduced by private parties, as to those who are brought in under contract with the Government, and also to guard against importers allowing their services to others, and thus making a traffic and speculation of the undertaking; this I think a very important point, and one not very easy of adjustment. In my Despatch, No. 82‡ of the 21st August, on the subject of immigration from the Cape de Verdes Islands, I showed that I had reason to believe something of the kind had taken place in the instance of the arrivals by the "Trym" and the "Penelope," and I am still inclined to the opinion that the offer of a Government bounty to private parties, to employ their vessels to bring coolies, who on their arrival should be distributed by the Government, would be a preferable mode of proceeding to that now proposed to be adopted. Such an arrangement would come in aid of the general system by which labour is now supplied from India by Government, and those planters who have not the command of the capital requisite to introduce it for themselves, would benefit equally with those who have. It is, of course, not with a view of curtailing the legitimate advantages enjoyed by those who have the command of capital over those who have not, that I say this, but my fear is, that those proprietors who as mortgagees or otherwise, may be under obligations to, or in the hands of capitalists, may be forced, so to say, by them to accept labour for their estates on their terms and for their profit, rather than on the easier ones which the Government supply may offer. My impression in fact is, that this kind of enterprise is likely to be conducted not by planters themselves for their benefit, but by mercantile houses for theirs. It is true that the high prices which have lately ruled, have been gradually emancipating estates in this island from this species of thraldom to which I have alluded, and that should they last a little longer, but few, if any, will remain in that condition. In any case, as it has been decided that the privilege sought for is to be granted to British Guiana, and could not therefore be withheld from Trinidad, on considerations

‡ Page 317.

siderations which must equally apply to the former; it only remains for me to endeavour to guard against every abuse in its application, by devising appropriate legislative arrangements.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 10. —

(No. 96.)

No. 10.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., 21 Sept. 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

Trinidad, 21 September 1857.
(Received, 19th October 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 104, 26 November 1857, p. 381.)

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of an Ordinance passed in Council on the 21st instant, "for raising funds in aid of immigration for the year 1858,"* together with a copy of the Attorney General's report thereon.

* *Vide* Appendix, No. 22, p. 563.

2. The funds to be raised under this Ordinance will, when combined with the ordinary income to accrue from the existing sources of revenue devoted to immigration purposes, be sufficient, as I shall show upon the estimates for 1858, now in course of preparation, to meet the expenses of the introduction of the whole number of coolies applied for, notwithstanding that by your Despatch, No. 71† of the 15th August, it appears that not more than 3,000 are likely to be obtained under present arrangements; the Council were desirous of showing their readiness to do all that depended upon them to meet fully the wants of the colony in this respect, and they were encouraged to do so by the expressions used in the last paragraph of your despatch already referred to.

† *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 296.

I have, &c.
(Signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 11. —

(No. 98.)

No. 11.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
23 Sept. 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

Trinidad, 23 September 1857.
(Received, 19th October 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 126, 16th January 1858, p. 386.)

1. BEGGING leave to refer to my Despatch, No. 89‡ of 5th September, which was a reply to yours, No 63 of the 31st of July, signifying the decision of the Governor General of India in Council, on the subject of Emigration, to be conducted by private parties from Bombay, I have now the honour to transmit to you a copy of a report presented to the Council of Government by its Standing Committee on Immigration, together with a copy of a resolution adopted thereon.

‡ Page 318.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.

2. You will observe, Sir, that the Council have taken the same view as myself in regard to the preference to be given to immigration on bounty from Bombay to that proposed to be conducted entirely by private parties, and on much the same grounds. I have therefore but little to add to my former despatch on the subject, except to convey to you the expression of the earnest desires of the Council and of the community in general, that every endeavour may be made to supply from one source or another, the whole number of immigrants for which provision has been made for the service of 1858. In no period of the history of the island was there ever so large a breadth of land planted in canes, or in which consequently the question of a sufficient supply of labour was so vital.

3. It is right also that I should tell you, Sir, that there is a feeling very prevalent here, whether justified by facts or not, and notwithstanding the explanations afforded on the subject in the letter from the Land and Emigration Commissioners, transmitted to me in your Despatch, No. 63 of the 31st of July, that Trinidad holds a secondary position to British Guiana, in its relations to

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immigration from India, and one object of the present report of the Standing Committee, is to show that the coolie is offered greater advantages in this island than in the latter colony.

4. I am not aware that there is any objection to the return recommended by the committee to the principle of allowing immigrants to commute their right to a return passage, on receiving an equivalent in land or money from the Colonial Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

Encl. 1, in No. 11.

Enclosure 1, in No. 11.

THE Standing Committee on Immigration have the honour to report, that they find with great pleasure, from the Despatch of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, No. 63 of 31st July 1857, and the papers accompanying it, that the principle which your committee had suggested in their report to Council of the 23d July last, "that no attempt should be made to preclude the Indian from his freedom of movement and his right to seek a higher remuneration for his labour wherever he may see fit," had been already sanctioned by the Governor General of India in Council.

The permission conceded to private individuals to introduce labourers at their own expense into British Guiana, and consequently, as we presume into Trinidad, will be a great boon to the wealthier capitalists, who may require, and can bear the charge of introducing large bodies of labour. But your committee hope that immigration on bounty at the expense of the Colonial Government will be also permitted.

It will be necessary that this immigration at the public expense should be allowed, in order to put labour from this new source of supply within the reach of the less wealthy proprietors, who can, without inconvenience, repay the cost of its introduction by the payment of an annual premium on the indentures of the immigrants assigned to them, although they could not afford to advance in one sum the entire amount.

And it will also be necessary, in order to prevent the introduction of labour being turned into a speculation, in which the capitalist would charge to the planter a sum greatly exceeding the real cost of introduction.

We observe that the Governor General in council suggests that the cost of the return passage should be defrayed by the introducer; but we would submit that such a provision will not be necessary if the coolie labourer from Bombay is to be introduced under the conditions, as to the length and nature of his service, which apply to the immigrant from Calcutta. Under the present law, the labourer introduced under bounty is introduced for a term of ten years, of which the first term of five years is under indenture to labour, with the privilege however of cancelling his indenture on the expiration of the third or fourth year, by payment of a proportionate part of the cost of his introduction. On the expiration of the first five years he is free to choose his own employment, and on the expiration of the tenth year is entitled to a return passage, on paying the sum of 35 dollars as his contribution towards its cost.

In Demerara the immigrant is entitled to this return passage on payment of the sum of 35 dollars; or if he shall, during the last five years of his residence, have paid to the Government 12 dollars a year, or served under annual indentures with some planter, in which case the planter pays to the Government an annual fee of seven dollars on the indenture.

The conditions offered by Trinidad seem more favourable to the coolie. There is no fee payable in Trinidad by the planter to the Government on any contract to labour entered into by a coolie who has completed an industrial residence of five years. Thus the coolie is enabled to obtain annually, from the planter, a bounty on the pre-emption of his services for the year, which in fact exceeds the sum paid in Demerara by the planter to the Government.

If, therefore, the immigrant from Bombay, introduced into this colony at the expense of private individuals, is indentured for five years, determinable on the expiration of the third or fourth year, he will, at the end of the first five years, pass for another term of five years into the body of labourers, free to choose their own masters. If so, we see no reason why he should not, as well as the immigrant on bounty from Calcutta, be entitled to call upon the Government to provide for him a return passage, on his contributing the same sum which the immigrant from Calcutta would pay.

Any obligation to provide a return passage, which private individuals introducing immigrants might be called on to enter into, would often be defeated by their death or absence from the colony, or by a change in their pecuniary means.

The Committee are sensible of the value of the concession thus made to the West India proprietors, and they hope that Her Majesty's Government will not refuse to modify the rules which now regulate the proportion of the passengers to tonnage. A great reduction would be thus effected in the cost of immigration.

The Committee take this opportunity of suggesting the propriety of holding out to the immigrants from India an inducement to adopt the colony as their final place of residence.

By

By the Ordinance No. 5 of 1851, it was enacted that any immigrant who might be willing to give up his right to a return passage, should be entitled to a grant of land of a value equivalent to the cost of such passage.

It would be advisable to return to the principle of this enactment, and to provide that every immigrant should be entitled to abandon his right to a return passage on receiving from the Colonial Government an equivalent in land or in money.

Your Committee are aware that his Excellency the Governor has already called the attention of the Secretary of State to the expediency of appointing an agent for this island at Bombay.

It will be necessary for the Board to make provision for the payment of a salary to the agent.

(signed) *Charles W. Warner.*

19 September 1857.

Enclosure 2, in No. 11.

Encl. 2, in No. 11.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated Monday, 21 September 1857.

Resolved,—That it is expedient that an agent at Bombay be appointed exclusively for this colony for the purposes of emigration, provided Her Majesty's Government permit emigration on bounty from that port, and that his Excellency the Governor be requested to make application to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State to make such appointment; and this Board pledges itself to provide such salary for the officer to be appointed as the Secretary of State may deem proper.

— No. 12. —

(No. 102.)

No. 12.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., 7 October 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M. P.

Trinidad, 7 October 1857.
(Received, 31 October 1857.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 106, 4 December 1857, p. 382.)

1. I HAVE the honour to forward to you a copy of a report I have just received from the Agent General of Immigrants, announcing the departure of the "Eveline" with 343 return coolies for India, together with a nominal list of the immigrants, and a statement of their savings, part of which they have, at their own wish, taken with them in coin, the remainder being remitted by a commissariat order for 5,389*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, enclosed herewith. The details of this remittance are given in Dr. Mitchell's report. The inconvenience he points out as arising from his not being made acquainted with the terms of the charter party before the arrival of the vessel could be obviated, if my suggestion, made in a former despatch, were acted upon, and I were empowered to take up here for these return passengers one or more of the ships arriving yearly with coolies from India.

No. 1.

2. I have to request that Mr. Caird may receive the necessary instructions to send to their destination the few Madras coolies despatched in this vessel, either as deck passengers, by one of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company's ships, or in such other way as may be thought fit, debiting this colony with the expenses, and that the amount due to a coolie named "Shibram," omitted in the bill, may be made good to him, in the manner suggested by Dr. Mitchell.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Enclosure in No. 12.

Encl. in No. 12.

Sir, Immigration Office, 7 October 1857.

1. I HAVE the honour to report for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the ship "Eveline," which was placed, on the 30th September, at the disposal of the agent-general of immigrants, to convey return coolies to Calcutta, has this day sailed with 266 men, 33 women, 18 boys, 22 girls, and 4 infants, making a total of 343 souls.

2. The "Eveline" by charterparty was guaranteed the full amount which she is by law authorised to carry, say 350 adults. It would have sufficed in the present instance to have guaranteed the same number as in the ships which sailed with return immigrants in 1855 and 1856, say 250 adults; because, whatever may be the number of old coolies in the

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colony at any given date, it is now difficult to get more together for shipment within a reasonable period.

3. At present the old coolies in the island, or those who have terminated their industrial residence, amount to upwards of 3,000; of these more than one-half have re-engaged themselves voluntarily for fresh periods of service, and about 400 are engaged either directly or indirectly in commerce; of the remaining 1,000 not more than 400 adults, with their children, have come forward to enrol their names for departure. Of these 400 only 33 are coolies who have long terminated their apprenticeship; the majority are men who have only this year become entitled to their certificates of industrial residence, and of these not a few have become free by purchasing their unexpired time.

4. Finally, of the 400 definitively enrolled for embarkation, only 250 came forward when the ship was ready. Her complement (less 31) was procured on the distinct assurance that if they did not avail themselves of the present opportunity, they should not be offered another.

5. This forcible suasion has an unpleasant influence, both on the labourer and his employer: the former finds that he is obliged to sell his lands, house, or cattle, as the case may be, at a loss; while the latter occasionally sees his best hands constrained to leave at the very moment he most requires their labour.

6. The demand for this class of labour is at present so great that many employers have already offered the free coolies bounties of 3 *l.* to renew their engagements for another year. In one instance, 4 *l.* sterling, with a free passage at the expiry of the year, has been declined. Such offers, equivalent to about 8 *d.* sterling increase on the day's work, although only to the most efficient labourers, could never, I apprehend, be made with any expectation of direct repayment from the services of the parties receiving. They show, however, the extreme importance attached by employers to the continuity of labour, and their faith in its results.

7. The late accounts from their native country have differently affected the coolies; some who had previously appeared naturalised in the colony have sold houses and land to embark, while others who intended returning have declined so doing for the present. They take with them about 4,697 dollars in specie, under care of the surgeon-superintendent, and have besides lodged in the treasury, for transmission to India, British and colonial monies to the amount of 5,389 *l.* 5 *s.* 5 *d.* sterling. As the number of Madras coolies presenting themselves for return passage was not sufficiently great to require the ship to call expressly at that port, I have, with their own consent, subject to his Excellency's approval, consigned them along with the others to Calcutta, where they will receive their money from Mr. Caird, the immigration agent, who, I pray, will then be instructed to forward them per steamer to Madras as deck passengers, charging the expense of the same to the colony.

8. The arrangement regarding food, clothing, fittings, &c., on board the "Eveline" are similar to those adopted in the "Arabia;" the ship herself is all that can be desired for the safe conveyance of passengers, and the coolies are in such health and spirits as augur the probability of small loss on the voyage.

9. Before concluding this report I would draw the attention of his Excellency to a practice frequent on the eve of departure of return ships, viz., swearing debts and taking out warrants against such of the coolies as appear likely to part with their money rather than forego their passage; in the present instance several respectable men have been mulcted of a portion of their earnings; I would suggest as most desirable that steps should be taken, if practicable, to check this evil.

10. Annexed is a list of the coolies embarked, whether Calcutta or Madras, with the monies they have deposited here or taken with them as cash. The latter amount is small, as the dollar is now rarely met in currency; and those who held them, knowing that the return coolies were in the market, asked a price as high as 10 per cent. I have informed the coolies that henceforth his Excellency has recommended, that whatever sterling money they deposited in the Colonial Treasury for transmission to India, should be repaid them there to the same amount. This assurance will, it is hoped, prevent any future disappointment with regard to the security of their earnings.

Still the coolies like concealment, and some of the wealthiest passengers by the "Eveline" have declared no money; one in particular, who has for many years occupied a prominent position, said he had no money, and then paid the captain 70 dollars as passage money for a creole negress whom he takes as companion to his Hindoo wife.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Honourable Ths. Frs. Johnston.

10 October 1857.

P.S.—In closing this report I have the honour to add, that the bill drawn in favour of the East Indian Company does not include the full amount of money deposited in the Treasury for transmission to Calcutta, on account of the return immigrants per "Eveline."

When the coolies deposited their money they received receipts from the Treasury without any corresponding entry being made under their respective names or numbers, in any book set apart for the purpose, as the pressure of business did not allow of such a step being taken.

The receipts they got from the treasury were brought to this office, where they were entered under the name and distinguishing number of each immigrant returning per "Eveline." After this took place, one man named Shibram, lost his receipt for 21 *l.* 1 *s.* 8 *d.* sterling;

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sterling; consequently as the bill in favour of the East India Company was drawn only to the amount of the receipts returned to the treasury, "Shibram's" money has not been transmitted; and as it is desirable that no coolie should experience unnecessary delay in receiving the amount of his earnings in Calcutta, and it being too late to alter the bill by this packet, I have to beg that Mr. Caird, the immigration agent, may be instructed to pay the sum of 21*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*, set opposite the name of "Shibram," No. 6,809 in the accompanying corrected list, and charge the same to this colony. In future, when coolies deposit money in the treasury for any purpose whatever, if their names be entered along with the number and ship's name, as entered on their certificate or procurable at this office, similar difficulties will not recur.

I annex the attestation of the two clerks who entered and checked "Shibram's" receipt, to the fact of his having received and lost the same.

(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

Immigration Office, 10 October 1857.

We, the undersigned, declare to have entered the treasury receipt of return immigrant "Shibram," No. 6,809, for the sum of 21*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* sterling.

(signed) *Chs. Arth. Rochford.*
G. A. Roget.

Witness to the same,
(signed) *Henry W. Anderson.*

— No. 13. —

(No. 114.)

No. 13.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
7 November 1857.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

Trinidad, 7 November 1857.
(Received, 3 December 1857.)

Sir,

With reference to your circular Despatch of the 8th of September last, transmitting copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Sierra Leone, forwarding petitions from certain inhabitants of that place, praying that their relatives, who emigrated to the West Indies with the promise of return passages, might be sent back, I have the honour to forward to you a copy of a report from the Agent General of Immigrants, enclosing two letters from gentlemen residing here, who, at the time referred to, were instrumental in introducing immigrants from Africa; from which it would appear, that no promise of a return passage was ever made to those who came to this island. In the year 1853, however, a petition was presented to Lord Harris by five persons, asking for a back passage, which his Lordship transmitted to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, in a Despatch dated 23d August 1853, and marked No. 100, stating, that this was the first and only intimation he had ever had of the immigrants from Sierra Leone having a right to a back passage; and requesting instructions how to deal with the matter. No reply appears to have been received, nor have the petitioners ever again come forward.

Enclosure.

The Agent General of Immigrants now informs me that the Sierra Leone immigrants have become so entirely absorbed in the creole population, that he has no means of tracing any of them out, or identifying them; that he has hitherto been unable to find the individual to whom the letter transmitted in your Despatch is addressed, though the name, "Charles Mason," appears on the register of immigrants; and that, with the exception of the case of the petitioners alluded to, no application for back passages have ever been made. I may add, that the Governor of Sierra Leone, and the relatives of the immigrants from that place now settled in this colony, may rest assured that not one among them is in a destitute condition.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

Encl. in No. 13.

Enclosure in No. 13.

Sir,

Immigration Office, 16 October 1857.

I have the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that no traces exist, in the records of this office, of any document on which any right to a return passage for immigrants from Africa could be based. I beg leave to enclose two letters from gentlemen

Sub-Enclosure 1.
Sub-Enclosure 2.

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gentlemen residing here, who, during the period referred to, were despatched by the authorities of this island to Africa, on missions connected with the introduction of labour from Sierra Leone. These letters, as far as they go, confirm the opinions which I have already had the honour to submit on this subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Honourable Thos. Fras. Johnston.

Sub-Enclosure 1, in No. 13.

Sir, San Fernando, 13 October 1857.

An attack of influenza has delayed my answering your letter of the 8th, received on the evening of the 10th, until now.

My mission to Sierra Leone was not to bring over Africans, but to examine and report on the prospects of obtaining labour from Sierra Leone. The immigrants who came over in the "Senator" on that trip were engaged by the agent (Mr. Ritt) at Sierra Leone, and the master of the vessel, under the surveillance of the naval officer who accompanied the ship. I was on a tour in the interior whilst the greater number of them were being engaged. I never heard the question of a return passage even mooted by any person in Sierra Leone, except the Kroomen. I attended a few meetings to collect information, and to point out to people the advantages of coming here; but there was never any mention made by me of return passages on those occasions. I do not, of course, know precisely what was done by the master of the vessel, the agent, and naval officer; but, so far as I was cognisant of their proceedings, no prospect of a return passage was held out to any one who came to Trinidad on that occasion.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Robert Guppy.*

The Honourable Henry Mitchell.

Sub-Enclosure 2, in No. 13.

Sir, Conva, 12 October 1857.

In reply to your communication of the 8th instant, I beg to state that the Africans brought from Sierra Leone by me were not offered return passages.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Thornhill.*

The Honourable Henry Mitchell.

I may state that I took to Sierra Leone six or eight Africans, who paid somewhere about 25 dollars each for their return passages.

(signed) *H. Thornhill.*

— No. 14. —

No. 14.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
4 December 1857.

(No. 127.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *Henry Labouchere*, M.P.

Trinidad, 4 December 1857.
(Received, 1 January 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 125, 15 January 1858, p. 384.)

Private intelligence has reached this island that, in consequence of the troubles in the North of India, and the drain on the finances of the country resulting therefrom, all public works have been brought to a standstill, and that there is likely, therefore, to be no want of persons ready to emigrate from Madras, but that the Emigration Agent there who receives his instructions from Mr. Caird, has had orders only for Demerara, but none for Trinidad. This has probably arisen from the circumstance of the local arrangements for the immigration for the ensuing year having been made in Demerara at an earlier date than in Trinidad; and probably since the letter was written which brings this intelligence, orders have been given for this island also; but I venture to request that I may be informed whether such is the case, in order that I may allay the feeling which I have already reported to you as existing among the planting community in this island, and which this news, if unexplained, is calculated to strengthen, that the interests of Trinidad are apt to be postponed to those of Demerara by the Agent General in Calcutta.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 15. —

(No. 138.)

No. 15.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
25 Dec. 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Henry *Labouchere*, M. P.

Trinidad, 25 December 1857.
(Received, 8 February 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you a copy of a Resolution passed by the Council of Government of this island, at its meeting on the 15th instant, and to request your instruction thereon. *Enclosure.*

2. It was thoroughly understood when the Resolutions were adopted on the 2d June 1857, which led to the passing of the Ordinance No. 9 of 1857, imposing an export duty on produce in 1858, that this additional burden was to be laid on the planters solely for the purpose of enabling Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners to take measures for obtaining five thousand instead of three thousand coolies from India for the ensuing season, and when the Ordinance was passed an impression prevailed that the question how many would be introduced was rather one of finance than of practical difficulty in regard to procuring the number asked for. Now, however, that intelligence has arrived that the disturbed state of India has interfered with the collection of intending emigrants from Calcutta to the West Indies, as mentioned in your Despatch, No. 101* of the 14th November, and its enclosures, coupled, no doubt, with that of the crisis in the money market in England, and the fall which has consequently taken place in the price of sugar, an uneasy feeling has been produced; and though the desire still exists as strongly as ever, that the whole number of immigrants asked for should be supplied at whatever cost, an apprehension has supervened that possibly the burden may have to be borne without the advantages proposed to be gained thereby being secured. It would no doubt be better, and more in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance, that, even if 3,000 coolies only were introduced, the amount of revenue to be raised by the export duties should remain in the treasury, and be applicable to future immigration, than that it should be returned to the exporters, and probably no other course would have been contemplated had high prices continued to rule, and it may still be adopted should they again improve; but under the circumstances of the case, and remembering the understanding upon which the arrangement was made, I did not consider it my duty to interfere with the passing of the Resolution in question when proposed by the unofficial Members of Council, or to refuse to bring it to your notice, though it is certainly somewhat unusual to provide for the return of taxes after they have been imposed by Ordinance.

* Page 380.

3. You will observe, Sir, that this Resolution has reference to the export duties only, and not to the additional indenture fees established by the Ordinance. Should the former be remitted, and 3,000 coolies only be introduced, the revenue and expenditure for the ensuing year for the service of immigration would stand nearly as follows:

REVENUE:	£.
Rum Duties	21,000
Indenture Fees on 3,000 Coolies	6,000
Additional ditto	6,000
Re-indenture Fees	5,000
Additional ditto	1,000
From General Revenue	13,000
	£. 52,000

EXPENDITURE:

	£
Immigration Dep. Trinidad	1,555
Interest and Sinking Fund	11,000
Immigration Dep. India	6,000
Passages	30,000
Return Passages	3,000
Clothing for ditto	200
Miscellaneous	250
	£. 52,005

4. Should the period fixed in the Resolution be reached without any portion of the additional 2,000 coolies, for whose introduction the export duties are imposed, arriving in or being announced as engaged for this colony, and it should be decided, therefore, that these duties should be remitted, it will be necessary to pass an Ordinance to that effect; but without your special sanction I should not consider myself at liberty to submit an Ordinance of such a nature to the Council.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. *Rob. W. Keate.*
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 15.

Enclosure in No. 15.

EXTRACT from the MINUTES of the Legislative Council, dated 15 December 1857.

THE Resolution of Council of the 2d day of June 1857 having been adopted, and the Ordinance No. 9 of 1857 having been passed, in the hope of an increased immigration of labourers from the British possessions in India during the coming year, and the export duty imposed by the said Ordinance having been imposed in order to meet the expense of an immigration beyond 3,000 persons, and there being reason to fear, from the disturbed state of the British possessions in India, that the number of immigrants to be introduced during the coming year will not exceed 3,000 persons.

Resolved, "That if the number of immigrants introduced into the island, or whose engagement to immigrate to this colony within the present season, shall have been authentically announced before the date between this day and the 15th day of August next, shall not exceed 3,000 persons, it will be reasonable and just that the export duty which may be paid on produce exported during the coming year, be repaid to the persons by whom the same shall be paid, and that his Excellency the Governor be requested to bring the subject under the consideration of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, and to direct that the Receiver General do keep a memorandum of the names of the several persons by whom such export duty shall be paid, the amount paid, and the nature and quantity of the produce on which the same shall be paid."

Carried.

— No. 16. —

No. 16. Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 18 January 1858.

(No. 8.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Trinidad, 18 January 1858.
(Received, 18 February 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 5, 12 March 1858, p. 388.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of an Ordinance, intituled, "An Ordinance to repeal a certain part of an Ordinance, intituled, 'An Ordinance for raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the year 1858,'"* which has been passed by

* *Vide* Appendix, No. 24, page 564.

by the Council of Government for the purpose of removing the defect which, in your Despatch, No. 104* of the 26th November last, you point out as existing in your opinion, in Ordinance No. 9 of 1857, together with the Attorney General's report thereon.

* Page 381.

2. The over-estimate of the produce of the indenture tax referred to in your Despatch was corrected, after the passing of the Ordinance, in the annual estimates, and it does not appear that there are very many coolies in a position to have their services transferred during the year, the 1,000 *l.* calculated to arise under this head being dependent rather upon purchases of unexpired time of industrial residence than on transferred indentures. If this were not the case I should be inclined to fear that the alteration now made would produce the effect of encouraging the enticing of old and experienced coolies from their employers, and thus disturbing the regularity and continuity of labour by making the cost of a year's service of such 1 *l.* less than that of a new comer who has his duties to learn. The difference of 1 *l.* the other way, though it did not operate as an impediment to a change of employer when the coolie wished for a change, may at least be considered as having discouraged any tendency that may have existed to this kind of seduction; and so little do I think that an additional payment of 2 *l.* would have prevented transfers of service this year, that it appears to me not unlikely that some portion of it, at least, will now go into the pockets of the coolies in the shape of bounty, instead of into the public treasury.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 17. —

(No. 9.)

No. 17.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
20 January 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

Trinidad, 20 January 1858.
(Received, 18 February 1858.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 106 of the 4th of December last, transmitting copy of a report from Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, and instructing me to furnish certain specific information they are desirous to obtain as to the number of coolies for whom they are to guarantee freight in each return coolie ship.

2. The Colonial Secretary received previously to the arrival of the "Eveline," and transmitted to Dr. Mitchell, what purported to be a copy of its charterparty, but it was merely a blank form except as regarded its first page; he was therefore unacquainted with the number for which freight was guaranteed in it. In the charterparty of the "Arabia" occur the words: "There shall be paid for as hereinafter mentioned the full complement of passengers which by law the ship shall be qualified to carry between decks, not exceeding in the whole 250 adults." This sentence Dr. Mitchell interpreted to mean that no more than 250 adults were to be carried in her, whereas I learn from Sir F. Rogers' report of the 25th of September, transmitted to me in your Despatch, No. 97 of the 9th of November last, that this provision was intended to limit the number of passengers the colony was to be bound to furnish or to pay for, and not the number the ship itself could lawfully carry. What is wished is exactly that which I understand to be now arranged, and to have been originally intended, namely, that to each ship shall be guaranteed payment for no more than 250 coolies; but that should more present themselves, the Agent General of Immigrants may ship them at the same rate of payment, provided the whole number shipped shall not exceed the full complement which by the Passenger Act may be lawfully carried.

3. With reference to the Commissioners' remarks in regard to the forcing other coolies to take the place of those applicants who afterwards declined to

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take advantage of the return passage for which they had enrolled themselves, I beg to state that so far from any pressure having been made use of the vacant places were in the instance of the "Eveline," granted as a favour to eager applicants who had but just terminated their fifth year of industrial residence, and whose turn had not arrived.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 18. —

No. 18.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
9 February 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

(No. 17.)

Trinidad, 9 February 1858.
(Received, 8 March 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 32, 13 May 1858, p. 396.)

I HAVE to report the arrival, on the 28th ultimo, of the ship "Wellesley," from Calcutta, with the following Indian immigrants, viz., 165 men, 129 women, 43 boys, 37 girls, and 16 infants, being a total of 390 souls.

The reports of the Agent General of Immigrants and the Health Officer are herewith enclosed.

3 February 1858. Enclosure 1.
29 January 1858. Enclosure 2.

The gratuity to which Captain Smith is entitled will be paid him here, in accordance with the instructions conveyed to me in your Despatch, No. 41* of the 25th of May last; and having been advised by the Attorney General that there is no legal objection to the step, I shall pay the passage-money claimed for the two Topuzes referred to in Dr. Mitchell's report, who will be indentured to estates in the regular way. With regard to the surgeon's remuneration, I have not ventured to take any further step than that mentioned in Dr. Mitchell's report, as there appears to be some discrepancy between the arrangement made with him by Mr. Caird in this respect, and that authorised in your Despatch already referred to.

* *Vide* Papers presented to Parliament, August 1857, p. 294.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Encl. 1, in No. 18.

Enclosure 1, in No. 18.

Sir, Immigration Office, 3 February 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the ship "Wellesley," 1,015 tons burthen, arrived here from Calcutta on the evening of Thursday the 28th ultimo, after a passage of 74 days, with 165 men, 129 women, 43 boys, 37 girls, and 16 infants, being a total of 390 souls. The deaths which occurred on board were eight men, six women, three boys, and thirteen infants, and on arrival here four men, six women, and one girl were sent to hospital.

The classification commenced on Saturday, the 30th ultimo, and the distribution was terminated on Tuesday the 2d instant. The people were in fair order, rather thin, perhaps, but appeared to have met with great care and attention on board; the accommodations of the ship, as regards room and ventilation, are of the highest class.

It may be here remarked that since the change of diet has been adopted, not only the deaths on board have been beyond the usual average, but the mortality during the first months after landing has been also greater, and the complaint among the planters is now more general that the thin and weekly coolies take much longer to become available labourers than heretofore. However well adapted a portion of biscuit may be to form the diet of men in full health and activity, I do not think, professionally speaking, that it should be used otherwise than medicinally for those whose strength is under par; further, that its daily use is unsuitable to mothers nursing their children, and must have contributed to the mortality of infants at the breast on board the "Wellesley;" at least there is no other prominent cause for the loss of 13 children out of 29, on board a vessel so well appointed during so short a passage, and under the care of a most experienced surgeon superintendent.

Captain Smith, of the "Wellesley," in addition to his claim for the customary gratuity, has preferred another for the amount of passage money of two Topuzes, shipped at Calcutta

cutta to assist in attending the coolies during the voyage. Although these two men are not entered on the muster-roll of immigrants, still as they are desirous to enter into similar contracts, it would appear to be advantageous to the colony that they should do so, if possible, on the same terms, provided there be no legal obstacle.

The surgeon superintendent has been paid at the rate of 8 *s.* per head for the coolies landed alive, *ex* "Wellesley," in terms of his arrangement with Mr. Caird, although he appears to be entitled to a higher rate, the balance of which will be settled in London by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners.

I have, &c.

The Hon. John S. Bushe. (signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

Enclosure 2, in No. 18.

Encl. 2, in No. 18.

Sir, Port of Spain, 29 January 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency Governor Keate, that I visited officially, yesterday afternoon, the iron ship "Wellesley," out 74 days from Calcutta. This vessel took out on board on her departure, according to the surgeon's report, 350 adult immigrants and 28 infants, of which total 30 have died on the passage. For the particulars I refer to the enclosed return. Four births have taken place at sea, of whom two survive.

The appearance of these immigrants as a whole is not very favourable, many of the young people looking sickly; but the doctor declares they are in a better state now than when taken from the depôt, where the mortality is considerable. The biscuit rations are still continued, though not approved of by the medical man, for Hindoos.

The accommodations of the ship are excellent, which I doubt not has contributed to lessen the mortality among these immigrants, which, considering their description, does not seem extraordinary.

I have, &c.

The Hon. John Scott Bushe, *Tho. Anderson,* M.D.
Acting Colonial Secretary. Inspector of Health of Shipping.

— No. 19. —

(No. 19.)

No. 19.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
11 February 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere,* M.P.

Trinidad, 11 February 1858.
(Received, 17 March 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 29, 3 May 1858, p. 394.)

IN forwarding to you the copy of the usual annual report of the Agent General of Immigrants for 1857, I take the opportunity of appending to it a copy of another report from him containing his remarks upon some extracts I communicated to him from Sir Frederic Rogers' report of the 25th September 1857, which was transmitted to me in your Despatch, No. 97 of the 9th November last.

Enclosure 1.

Enclosure 2.

2. The whole question of the state of the laws affecting the sale of rum, both in the towns and the rural districts, is now under the consideration of a Committee of Council with a view to their consolidation and amendment, and the circumstances alluded to in the 6th paragraph of Dr. Mitchell's report have been brought to their notice. The suggestion that the Ordinance which prohibits an indented coolie from being imprisoned for debt might be made to insist also on his wages being paid in cash, so as to obviate the possibility of his employer facilitating his obtaining credit at and thus being attracted to the grog shop is deserving of consideration, but it might operate inconveniently in regard to other and more legitimate trade arrangements in which the credit of the employer is used for the benefit of the coolie. In all other respects these reports present a satisfactory picture of the condition of immigrant population generally.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

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Enclosure 1, in No. 19.

Encl. 1, in No. 19.

Sir, Immigration Office, 12 January 1858.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency, that I have given my best consideration to the extracts from the conclusion of Sir Frederic Rogers' report of 25th September 1857, contained in your enclosure of the 23d ultimo.

The most important of these extracts refers to the subject of intemperance, as mentioned in the annual report of the Agent General of Immigrants for 1856.

1. The absence of stimulants was there alluded to as a feature worthy of observation in the history of immigrant labour, but without offering any suggestions of a remedial nature.

No doubt during the earlier stages of Indian migration into this colony, it might have been possible to limit, to a certain extent, the consumption of ardent spirits among a class of people, as yet few in number, and whose colonial habits of life were still in process of formation; but now that these habits have been confirmed, and the sale of rum legalised under certain conditions throughout the colony, it would be difficult to abate the evil suddenly, without undue interference with the revenue and individual freedom of action. Under these circumstances, the present dependence of the labourer on stimulants can only be decreased by the advance of social improvement, and its growth here, as elsewhere, is rather too slow to admit of much reliance on its immediate efficacy as a moral lever.

2. It does appear, at first sight, that authority being given to distribute immigrants only to those estates where such abuses do not prevail, would suffice to check their extension, but the measure would perhaps lead rather to evasion than to prevention, for at present it is not unusual to find proprietors who would shrink from the open immorality of retailing spirits in their own names, sufficiently alive to the gainful nature of the traffic to take out licenses in the names of others; in such a position, were they forbidden by law to retail their own rum, they would naturally purchase from their neighbours the quantity required for the shop consumption, and dispose of their own manufacture by wholesale; and even were licenses for the retail of rum denied entirely to residents on sugar plantations, now that the consumption of the article is general, grog shops would immediately start up on detached lots which abound in the immediate vicinity of estates.

3. One great source of evil connected with the abuse of stimulants is, that the shops give credit to the labourer, and sometimes also the parties in charge of estates facilitate this commerce by advances to the labourer, not in the shape of money, but by orders on the shopkeeper, to be repaid within a certain time. It is very clear that such a course is open to much abuse, although it is not equally clear how such abuse might be checked; still as the Ordinance does not allow an indented coolie to be imprisoned for debt, it might go a little further and insist that his wages should be paid him in cash, irrespective of all outstanding claims, and leave him to settle his accounts in any way he thought proper. The man who has money in his pocket is not so apt to waste his time in dissipation as he who has none but can get credit.

4. The connexion between proprietors and the retail system has much diminished, during the last year, and a fair share of credit is due to their increasing intelligence, and to the indirect influence of Government.

The exercise of the latter has already abated serious evils, in the course of the immigration scheme, which could not have been easily overtaken by direct legislation; because employers are chary of any conduct, under the Governor's eye, which might compromise the only source of labour on which the general welfare depends.

5. Another and prolific source of drunkenness among immigrants, has been brought under my notice by Mr. Hobson, the intelligent stipendiary justice for the Eastern district, and that is the increase of licences under Ordinance 37 (1855), for periods shorter than one year, and that without security, as in the case of town licences.

I give the statement in his own words: "This Ordinance provides that it shall be lawful for the warden, if he shall see fit, and on the requisition of any person, and on the payment of a sum of money thereinafter mentioned, to grant a licence, which by section 3 shall be for three, or six, or nine, or twelve months." Under this provision of the law, anybody and everybody may be a licence holder; it suffices that the requisitionist should pay his thirty dollars, and every breach of the licence regulations may be committed; the licence holder transfers his shop to a friend and removes to another place; he is no more heard of. No service or summons can be made upon him, for he has absconded; the shop is occupied by another who refuses the summons, and the law becomes inoperative; perfect impunity shields the offender. From the operation of this law has resulted the establishment of a host of licensed shops by immigrants themselves, whose custom lies principally among their own countrymen; they receive in deposit the small means of the neighbouring coolies, and advance what they may require; it evidently follows that this money is converted to the advantage of the seller by the disposal of his stock, and rum is unfortunately, but unquestionably, the great article of exchange. Again, these shops find an unusual facility in avoiding the restrictions of the excise laws. If unwilling to incur the risk of disposing of rum on the prohibited days and hours, the liquor is transferred to their agents on different estates, where it is retailed on all days and at all hours, to the immigrants, on the credit system. It is rather remarkable that a large proportion of the coolie cases that have come under my notice, have occurred on Sundays; and there is no other explanation of the fact,

but

but by the disposal of rum on that day furtively, either by the shops on the estate, or through the agents of the coolie licence holders in the neighbourhood.

6. The second extract from Sir Frederic Rogers' Report, regards gambling among the Chinese immigrants and its concomitant abuses—as will be noted in the general Report for 1857, a considerable change for the better is observable among them; their mutual assaults, formerly so frequent and occasionally fatal, have entirely ceased, not so much from the influence of the rural police, whose numbers are inadequate to control the immigrants, were the latter otherwise than peaceably inclined, but from the civilising process, which occupation, pay, and equal rights seem to have extended, over a naturally sober, active, and industrious race.

7. Their national exclusiveness and jealousy of interference, seem to be gradually yielding to the sense of security, and the feeling that under the English flag all classes are equally protected. I consider this to be an important change for the better, because on their arrival here, and long afterwards, the Chinese immigrants looked on our courts of justice with contempt, seldom defending themselves beyond simple denials, and caring little for the result, as if under the impression that whatever the verdict, it could be little influenced by their statements or appearance.

8. Thus far improvement has manifested itself, but some of their standard vices still flourish; gambling is as prevalent as ever, though perhaps conducted with more caution, now that comfort and independence have been recognised as generally attainable. Opium smoking is also common, but its extreme abuse is not so apparent as formerly, principally because the Chinese labourer lives as highly as his circumstances permit.

9. The statement in the general Report for 1856, "that the females who had returned to Calcutta during the last two years were in a greater numerical ratio than the arrivals," referred, as correctly surmised by Sir Frederic Rogers, to the numbers introduced on their arrival, some six or ten years back. I cannot pass over the fact of the increased ratio of arrivals during the last few years, without noting the corresponding fact, that in proportion to that increasing ratio, has been the improvement of the general body of immigrants in steadiness and industry.

Before concluding I would draw attention to the 3d and 4th clauses of my Report of 7th October 1857, on the sailing of the "Eveline." The wording of these clauses conveys the impression, that the forfeit of a return passage was held out over to others than those who had enrolled their names for the return ship; this was not the case, nor did it in any sense apply to those who had purchased the balance of their industrial residence. The latter form a class always eager to leave, and in this instance to the number of about 40 embarked, instead of an equal number, who had the claim of seniority, but declined to take advantage of their chance.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

Honourable John S. Bushe,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 19.

Encl. 2, in No. 19.

Trinidad.—General Immigration Report for 1857.

Immigration Office, 20 January 1858.

THE quarterly returns, from which the bulk of the annexed tabulated history of the Trinidad immigration scheme for the year 1857 has been compiled, are, as regards adults, more correct than heretofore, consequently the tables themselves approximate more to the truth; they have been also somewhat extended by additional items, such as the number of committals of immigrants to the Royal gaol for various causes during the preceding 12 months.

It would be interesting to classify these last cases, but as the undertaking is foreign to the duties of this office, the committals are merely ranged under two heads, breach of labour contract and other police cases; to show, in as fair a light as possible, how far the faults of the Indian immigrant may have militated against the purpose for which he was introduced, namely, to forward the agricultural interests of the colony. There is yet another classification most desirable, but which was unattainable this year, a table to show what proportion of the committals belonged to the Hindoo, and what to the Mahommedan, consequently how far one or the other class is preferable as an immigrant.

The general features of immigration have been sufficiently discussed in previous reports, to dispense with their further recapitulation here.

All doubts as to the propriety of the introduction of foreign labour have now ceased, and the most eager applicants for immigrants are, in not a few cases, the parties who refused them in the first instance. They are not only clamorous for priority of supply, but found their claims on the fact of their having fewer than their neighbours; only one sugar estate in the colony has made no application this year for Indian immigrants, and the paucity of creole labour has taught the few planters who hitherto had made it their chief reliance, how far their supply was due to their own skill as managers, and how far it depended on local influence. To the eastward of Port of Spain, the district most thickly inhabited by creoles,

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the death blow was given to any remains among them of continuous industry, by the struggle during the wet months to extend cultivation, beyond what was warranted by the existing amount of fixed labour. This led to competition and higher wages, at rates that nothing could justify, but a continuation of good prices for sugar, and a certainty of receiving a sufficiency of labour to continue the cultivation thus commenced. The jobbing gangs thus brought together by high wages, have not only dispersed of late, but they have disappeared, and they will probably suffer great misery and cause much inconvenience, before they condescend again to labour at the customary terms; one good accompanied this evil, many of the coolies undertook piece work in the cane fields, over and above their daily tasks, and thus realised considerable sums of money. This is unusual with the Indian immigrant, who generally contents himself with a fixed amount of earning, and lounges the rest of the day. But this year the demand for labour has been so unexampled, notwithstanding a more than usual influx from older colonies, that they have been stirred up to unwonted exertion, by every inducement the planters could employ. In many instances the bounty has been increased to old servants from 2 *l.* to 3 *l.* sterling, and in one instance at least, a prospective premium of 4 *l.* sterling has been held out.

As a boon to this island, coolie immigration certainly holds its ground; this is further seen on comparing the number of commitments to the Royal gaol of immigrants under indenture in the years 1856 and 1857, the diminution in favour of the latter year is upwards of 200 on 600, or 33 per cent. This is a singular improvement, and its cause is not as yet particularly clear, probably it is a mixed result; immigration is becoming gradually systematised, the new coolie learns from the old one that shuffling or shirking work injures himself as much as the employer, the inducements to labour are greater, the number of free coolies receiving premium is great, and as they indent to masters whom they select of their own accord, they serve them more willingly, and thus introduce among their fellows a more contented spirit. There is also one item not to be overlooked in connexion with the diminished number of committals to the Royal gaol, and that is the opening up of a convict labour yard in the county of Victoria. This sort of work without pay, in the immediate vicinity of their residence, and exposed to the derision of their comrades, appear so far to be more dreaded by the immigrants than hard labour at the Royal gaol, and promises, when carried out in the other districts, to reduce committals for breach of contracts to a minimum.

Perhaps the most influential auxiliary in promoting industry among the indented immigrant population, is the system of endorsing each contract (when required by the employer) with the number of days the labourer may have illegally absented himself from work during its term.

It is only justice to the liberality of employers, to state that as a body they seldom avail themselves of this power beyond using it as a means to induce the immigrant to renew his contract. The preceding causes united have influenced the amount of labour more favourably, as is shown by comparing the number of days lost by indented servants from sickness and idleness in the year ending 3d April 1856, with the year ending 1st January 1858. In the former period, there is recorded 321,411 days lost, by a total of 3,000 indented servants. In the year just terminated there have only been registered 70,300 days from illegal absence, and 43,220 from sickness, on a total of 5,214 indented servants; without assuming these figures to be more than approximative, they may still be accepted, as showing a considerable increase in the agriculture of the colony. The supply of labour is however far below the demand, although a considerable accession has been received from the other West Indian islands, amounting during the last year to about 1,860; of these last, it is difficult to say how many ultimately settle; formerly the creoles of the old islands merely came to Trinidad to make money during crop, and then returned to their respective homes to raise provisions till the following season, but now the numbers who remain permanently, are evidently increasing and occupying in the roadside villages the places of the native creoles.

By the tabulated statement of Chinese labour in this colony for the year terminating in December 1857, it would appear that there had been no mortality in its course; this, however, is not strictly correct, but the deaths amounting to not quite 1·6 per cent. have been, numerically, more than compensated by the return of others of these immigrants who have been long reported as missing.

Of 662 adults, 231 are now free by purchase, effected at different periods of their indentures, 331 are still under indenture, and 100 reported as absent without leave, or infirm. The absentees are more than usually numerous; this is to be attributed partly to the practice of gambling, when the insolvent gamester usually absconds, but in the present case is due, in a great measure, to the scarcity of labour, which leads the planter to be less particular as to whom his overseers may employ, and the number of free Chinese being great, the police are quite unable to detect the vagrants who have either borrowed free papers from others, or forged them for the occasion. One or two offences of this kind have been punished, but their discovery was accidental; as a general rule they are difficult to trace out and prove to conviction.

The Chinese system of exclusiveness is gradually yielding to the outward pressure of civilization, and 17 of their number have been baptized; 15 received into the Roman-catholic Church, and 2 into the Established; 5 have married creole women, and 3 others will shortly follow their example with Cape Verdes. It is more than probable, that when their industrial residence shall have terminated, this step will be generally followed by those

Chinese

Chinese who are in tolerable prosperous circumstances, and the result will be as in some parts of the Indian Archipelago, a mixed population of great industrial value; for the female portion of the creole peasantry is industrious, and there is little doubt but that their offspring would be equally so, were it not for the idleness and apathy of the men.

During the last 12 months there have been scarcely any cases of assault among the Chinese, and at the last sessions no cases of theft. This, when we consider the number now free and the indifferent characters who must have found their way hither during a first immigration, augurs well for their future value to the colony.

There are at present few estates employing Chinese who have not one or more of that class of recognised superiority, whether as labourers or overseers; and those gentlemen who have had the largest experience of their services are unanimous in the opinion, that as a whole they are superior to any other labourers. They do not suffer now from intermittent fevers more than the natives, and work bareheaded, exposed to the noon-day sun, without inconvenience.

It may now, as to the general value of the Chinese immigrant, be assumed with confidence, that a limited annual introduction into this colony would greatly promote its welfare.

As a set-off against their industry it may be said, that as soon as they can, they betake themselves to shop-keeping, but this, if it be an objection, applies equally to other immigrants, whether Portuguese or Indian, who, however valuable in the field, invariably take to huxtering and small retail business, as soon as they have acquired sufficient capital; industry and economy, even when leading to such ends, are desirable, because if retail dealers increases industry in numbers, their competition would reduce their gains below those of the agriculturist, and thus restore the balance of labour.

The only element of immigrant labour remaining to be noticed in this Report, is that of the Cape de Verdians introduced into Trinidad last year under indenture to labour as agriculturists for five years. Their language is Portuguese, and with few exceptions, they resemble the African in feature and manner. They only amount to 154, with a fair proportion of women, and were distributed to estates in the same connexion and in the same district. Their labour has been of great value, and was so much wanted at the time, that many planters offered the importer a bounty of $ 100 per head. These people have generally behaved well—on one estate only was there a little trouble during the first two months, which was eventually traced to an old soldier of no very flattering antecedents, and as he finally preferred 1 *s.* 3 *d.* per day for easy work to hard labour at the police station, their turbulence gradually subsided. This case is worth recording, were it merely to show, that the legal protection held out to indented servants in this colony is not a mere form. The Cape de Verd immigrants on the Concord estate, (Cavans) in South Naparima, struck work to the number of 20, and 15 having repaired to town complained to the Agent General that they had not been duly paid for their labour, and that they had been beaten and otherwise illused by their manager. This complaint was something so unusual, that the Agent General of immigrants immediately repaired to the district in question, and summoned the manager of the Concord estate before the stipendiary justice of the peace, seven of the foremost complainants were examined, and after a troublesome inquiry and much loss of time to the employer and employed, it turned out that each had received the money payments he has worked for, and that fortnightly, instead of monthly according to contract; further, that no one had been beaten. The ill-treatment reduced itself to the manager having pushed the old soldier out of the estate store-room, where he had caught him stealing. The Cape de Verdians, after eight months' residence, are working well, and much to the satisfaction of their employers, three of their number are those already mentioned as being about to be married to as many Chinese.

I proposed to have introduced here some remarks on the present Ordinance, which controls immigration, resulting from another year's experience of their working, but shall reserve them for examination at an early period.

(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

Number of Indian immigrants working under indenture on estates, who have not completed a residence of five years in the colony - - -	3,931
Number of Indian immigrants working on estates under contract, who have completed an industrial residence of five years - - - -	1,347
Number of immigrants who have received certificates of industrial residence	1,542
Number of indented and unindented Chinese immigrants - - -	662
Boys and girls - - - - - - - - - - - -	1,000
Cape de Verd islanders under term - - - - - - - -	174
	8,626

— No. 20. —

No. 20.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
15 February 1858.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Trinidad, 15 February 1858.
(Received, 17 March 1858.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 113,* of the 6th January last, transmitting the copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, with a letter from Mr. Caird, furnishing an answer to the statement that the greater part of the coolies who arrived in Trinidad last year were under the impression that they had been shipped for Demerara. I should hardly be justified in troubling you further on this matter, if I did so, merely for the sake of showing that Mr. Caird has misapprehended the bearing of my statement, but as his somewhat off-hand explanation is calculated to injure this colony, and to produce erroneous notions concerning the advantages it offers and ensures to coolie immigrants, and their feelings towards it, notions certainly at variance with his own reports upon the subject, I trust I may be excused for again recurring to it.

* Page 383.

Persons who are acquainted with two places are apt to prefer one to the other, and persons who have been in one place, and been disappointed with it, are prone to imagine that another place with which they are unacquainted must be preferable to it, but those who have never been in one place or the other can hardly be disappointed with either. My statement was, that the greater part of the coolies who arrived here last year were under the impression that they had been "shipped" for Demerara; not that they had complained, or were disappointed, or were in any way affected at finding themselves at Trinidad instead. To this impression they had given utterance, when on board ship, long before coming even in sight of Trinidad, by continually asking how soon they should be in Demerara, Mr. Caird's supposition, therefore, is totally irrelevant. I alluded to the circumstance as an argument in favour, so far as it went, of separate agents being appointed for separate colonies, and I had no intention of imputing blame to any one, thinking it very natural that some confusion, as well as indifference, should exist as to distant localities among emigrants with limited ideas of geography, leaving their country for the first time. A circumstance, however, has come to my knowledge lately which leads me to think that the means taken in Calcutta in shipping emigrants to insure that they are fully acquainted with their destination, however perfect in theory, are not always successful in practice. There is now on the Jordan Hill estate in this island a coolie recently arrived by the "Wellesley," who, after an industrial residence of five years in Demerara, had returned to India, and had come down to the depôt in Calcutta for the purpose of going again to Demerara, not as thinking it a better place than Trinidad, of which he knew nothing, but simply because he had been there before, and had friends there. He avers, with what truth I cannot pretend to say, that he did his best, but in vain, to explain that he wished to go to Demerara, and not to Trinidad.

— No. 21. —

(No. 24.)

No. 21.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. 22 February 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P.

Trinidad, 22 February 1858.
(Received, 17 March 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 21, 21 April 1858, p. 393.)

Enclosure.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you a copy of a resolution passed in Council on the 18th inst., requesting me to make application for the introduction into the colony of three thousand (3,000) immigrants from India, and five hundred (500) from China, during the season, beginning in September next. This subject was taken up by the Council thus early in the year, in consequence of its having been shown in various Despatches and communications that dilatoriness in making known the requirements of this colony had operated in previous years to diminish its expected supply of immigrant labour.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

Enclosure in No. 21.

Encl. in No. 21.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 18 February 1858.

"Resolved,—That his Excellency be requested to make application to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, to give orders for the introduction into this colony in the season commencing in September 1858, of 3,000 immigrants from India, and 500 immigrants from China."

(A true extract.)

(signed) *Richard D. Cadiz,*
Clerk of Council.

— No. 22. —

(No. 51.)

No. 22.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M.P. 2 April 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Trinidad, 2 April 1858.
(Received, 5 May 1858.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Labouchere's Despatch, No. 152* of the 25th February, notifying that Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners had been instructed to take up shipping for facilitating the conveyance to the West Indies of liberated and other Africans, and enclosing a copy of the agreement entered into by them with the firm of Messrs. Hyde & Hodge for that purpose; and I hasten to acquaint your Lordship with the earnest desire of the colony to participate in the benefits of the arrangements proposed in that Despatch to the utmost extent that is compatible with the claims of other West Indian colonies.

* Page 387.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

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— No. 23. —

No. 23.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M. P. 18 April 1858.

(No. 65.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Trinidad, 18 April 1858.
(Received, 18 May 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 64, 2 June 1858, p. 397.)

Enclosure 1.
Ditto 2.

1. I HAVE the honour to enclose to your Lordship, copies of the reports of the Agent General of Immigrants, and of the Health Officer of the port of Port of Spain, relative to the arrival of the "Ellenborough" with the following Indian immigrants:

186 men.	67 children.
115 women.	23 infants.

2. By some accident, no doubt, no copies of the charterparty of the "Ellenborough," nor of the previous immigrant ship "Wellesley," have reached this colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

Encl. 1, in No. 23.

Enclosure 1, in No. 23.

Sir, Port of Spain, 10 April 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency Governor Keate, that I visited officially the immigrant ship "Ellenborough," out 89 days from Calcutta.

2. This vessel took on board on her departure 192 men, 122 women, 43 boys, 30 girls, 14 male infants, and 13 female; of which number have died on the passage, 6 men, 7 women, 4 boys, 2 girls, and 4 infants. This mortality arose principally from cholera and bowel affections. The doctor reports six cases requiring to go to hospital. There has been a birth on the passage.

3. The physical appearance of these coolies is very satisfactory, who appear cheerful and contented, and no complaints are made by the immigrants or officers of the ship on any subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Anderson*, M. D.
Inspector of Health of Shipping.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

Encl. 2, in No. 23.

Enclosure 2, in No. 23.

Port of Spain, 24 April 1858.

REPORT on the Immigrants by the Ship "Ellenborough," which arrived at *Trinidad* from *Calcutta*, on the 10th April 1858.

Name of the master	George Hayes.
Name of the surgeon	Robert Watts.
Date of departure	9th January 1858.
Number of days on the voyage	89.
Registered tonnage	1,031.
Superficies of passengers' deck	—
Number of statute adults admissible	350½.
Number of such adults actually on board	334½.
Number of crew	45.
Port at which vessel touched	—
Date of touching	—
Days there	—
If placed in quarantine, state the cause	—

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
192	122	43	30	387	1	–	6	7	2	4	186	115	41	26	368
27 Infants.							4 Infants.				23 Infants.				

(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Government Immigration Agent.

— No. 24. —

(No. 67.)

No. 24.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M.P.
20 April 1858.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Trinidad, 20 April 1858.
(Received, 18 May 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 66, 4 June 1858, p. 398.)

With reference to Mr. Labouchere's Despatch, No. 126* of the 16th January last, transmitting copy of a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, on the subject of the emigration of coolie labourers from Bombay to the West Indies, to be conducted by private parties, and suggesting that I should place myself in direct communication with the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana, with a view to mutual arrangements being made between the two colonies for attempting to carry out the project next season, I have the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of an extract from the proceedings of the honourable Court of Policy of British Guiana, which I have received from Lieutenant Governor Walker, in reply to the Despatch I addressed to him on the subject, and in which I drew his attention to all the points on which it appeared desirable to come to an understanding. In that extract, the preference of the Court for separate agencies is expressed; and in reply, I have informed Mr. Walker that an equally strong feeling exists on that point in this colony, but that my Despatch to him was written in the full knowledge that the wishes of both colonies in this respect had been negatived, on the ground that the particular evils which attend a divided agency are as likely to arise in one Presidency as another, and I have again requested him, therefore, to confer with me as to the mutual arrangements to be made, so as to justify the appointment of an agent in Bombay under the same rule as in Calcutta and Madras, unless, indeed, the colonists of British Guiana should determine to forego all attempts, in consequence of their not being permitted to have a separate agent.

* Page 386.

Enclosure.

2. My reason for now addressing your Lordship on this subject is, that it appears to me from this correspondence with Lieutenant Governor Walker, that the decision of Her Majesty's Government in regard to the question of separate emigration agencies in Bombay, as well as in the other Presidencies of India, is not so fully known in British Guiana as in this colony, and that so long as any doubt or uncertainty is suffered to exist on this point, no practical plan of operations is likely to be arrived at.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

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Encl. in No. 24.

Enclosure in No. 24.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the colony of British Guiana, at its adjourned assembly held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara.

Tuesday, 23 March 1858.

(After Prayers).

Referring to the portion of the Despatch from his Excellency the Governor of Trinidad, in which it was asked whether the colony would be disposed to appoint an agent jointly with Trinidad, the Court came to the decision that in the event of an agent being employed for this colony, his services should be devoted exclusively to its interests.

(signed) *J. Gardiner Austin,*
Acting Secretary.

— No. 25. —

No. 25.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M.P. 21 April 1858.

(No. 68.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M. P.

Trinidad, 21 April 1858.
(Received, 18 May 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 6, 15 June 1858, p. 398.)

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a transcript of an Ordinance passed in Council, No. 8 of 1858, intituled "An Ordinance for Repealing certain Duties imposed for raising Funds in Aid of Immigration,"* together with a copy of the Attorney General's report thereon.

* Vide Appendix, No. 24, p. 564.

2. In your Lordship's Despatch, No. 6† of the 12th March, I received authority for submitting to Council an Ordinance for repealing so much of Ordinance No. 9 of 1857, as imposed a duty on the export of produce, in accordance with a resolution of Council to that effect, a copy of which I transmitted in my Despatch, No. 138‡ of 25th December last, but in consequence of the observations of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners in their report, an extract from which was enclosed in your Lordship's Despatch, to the effect that instead of 3,000 there was no likelihood of more than 1,000 Indian immigrants at the most being introduced into the colony this year, I ventured to consider myself at liberty to exercise my discretion as to the extent of the authority conveyed to me, and I therefore directed the Attorney General so to frame the draft of the Ordinance as to include a repeal of the remaining portion of Ordinance No. 9 of 1857, by which additional fees on contracts of service with newly arrived Indian immigrants were imposed, and I trust I shall have your Lordship's approval for so doing. I acted thus, not only because I was convinced that the resolution of the Council would have been shaped to this end, had the fears of the Emigration Commissioners been within its knowledge at the time, but because I felt, that by adopting any other course, I should be retaining in the Treasury funds raised by additional taxation for a special object after I was well aware that such object could not be effected.

† Page 389.

‡ Page 325.

3. I have every confidence in the readiness of the Council to make whatever fresh Legislative arrangements may be necessary hereafter, when the prospects of immigration from the East Indies become more favourable.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 26. —

No. 26.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M.P. 7 May 1858.

(No. 73).

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Trinidad, 7 May 1858.
(Received, 31 May 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 23, 31 July 1858, p. 399.)

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a transcript of an Ordinance (No. 11) passed by the Council of Government, intituled, "An Ordinance for the encouragement of Immigration into Trinidad from China," together with a copy of

Vide Appendix, No. 25, p. 565.

of the Attorney General's report thereon. This Ordinance is, with some slight alterations in the 5th, 6th, and 8th clauses, copied word for word from the sketch furnished by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, and enclosed in your Lordship's Despatch, No. 13* of the 1st April.

* Page 390.

2. The prospect of renewed immigration from China has afforded great satisfaction to the planters of Trinidad, and there are several estates in the island, connected with large mercantile houses, which will no doubt benefit by the operation of the Ordinance just passed; but the circumstances of the colony and of the larger portion of its proprietary body are such as to render it very desirable that every kind of supply of immigrant labour, except, of course, such as flows in spontaneously from neighbouring places, should be conducted, as far as possible, by the Government, rather than that it should be left to the agency of private parties. I have entered into the reasons for this in my Despatches regarding the proposed introduction of immigrants on private account from Bombay, and it is under this impression that the two resolutions, copies of which I also take this opportunity of enclosing, have been adopted by the Council of Government.

Enclosure 1.
Ditto 2.

3. I am given to understand that the mode in which the objects contemplated in the Ordinance just passed, and in the one of a similar tenor enacted in British Guiana, are likely to be carried out, is by the agents in England of individual planters entering into agreements with persons acquainted with the localities, who are willing to contract for the collection and embarkation of emigrants from the ports in China, in which there may be emigration officers, and the wish of the Council is, that Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners should, under your Lordship's directions, place themselves in the position of such agents, and enter into like contracts on the part of the local government. With reference to this project, I would beg leave to call your Lordship's attention to the local Ordinance No. 3 of 1853, "For the better government of Chinese Immigrants introduced at the public expense," which seems to contain the general provisions requisite for the purpose. It would require alteration in one or two particulars, especially in the 6th and 10th clauses, by the former of which the duties payable by employers on assignment of services are placed on too moderate a footing, while the latter restricts the Chinese labourers to a scale of wages which may be lower than the current rate. The whole of this Ordinance, however, though not repealed by it, seems to me to be overridden by Ordinance No. 24 of 1854, "To amend and consolidate the Laws with regard to Immigration," in the 41st clause of which the fees payable on the indenture of all immigrants, including, as I conceive, Chinese, are fixed at a higher rate, while the amount of wages to be given is left to be arranged by mutual agreement between the employer and the labourer, when the contract of service is entered into. Any amendment, however, which your Lordship or the Emigration Commissioners might suggest as necessary, in the event of its being found practicable to conduct the immigration from China in the manner proposed, might be incorporated in a new Ordinance.

4. If I am rightly informed, a different principle has been kept in view in British Guiana in regard to the functions of the local Government in relation to immigration than that which has been acted upon in Trinidad. There, it has been considered that the duty of Government to take measures for recruiting the labour market extended no further than to its restoration to the position it held at the time of emancipation, and that all requirements beyond that point should be left to be supplied by private enterprise. The tendency of the legislation of that colony has therefore been gradually to contract the operations of its government in this respect, first, by making the repayment of advances for immigration purposes fall more quickly and more entirely upon the individual planters supplied with labour; and, secondly, by throwing more and more into their hands the conduct of the service. In Trinidad, on the contrary, which, as a sugar-growing colony, occupied a less advanced position than British Guiana when slavery was abolished, immigration has not been looked upon so much, if at all, as a means of recovering lost ground as of fostering its progress and development as a comparatively new colony; and its conduct, therefore, has become more and more an integral part of the functions of its local government. The special duties originally raised and set apart for this service, and treated as a separate fund, have, in accordance with this principle, been recently included among the ordinary revenues of the island; they, and the particular expenditure

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to which they relate, become the subject of calculation as part and parcel of the general yearly estimates, and the department to which the details of the service are entrusted is borne upon the fixed establishments. The Colony, in fact, cannot yet afford to dispense with direct Government action in one shape or another in its immigration affairs, or to rest satisfied with such resulting effects upon its general prosperity as may be produced by efforts made primarily for the advantage of individuals.

5. I make these remarks, my Lord, not with a view of depreciating facilities offered to private exertions, as is done in the Ordinance now transmitted, but for the sake of explaining the grounds on which it is accompanied by resolutions of Council tending apparently to a somewhat different conclusion.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Encl. 1, in No. 26.

Enclosure 1, in No. 26.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of a Meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 1st May 1858.

Resolved, That it is expedient to introduce into the Colony, as soon as possible, as many Chinese immigrants as can be introduced for the sum of 20,000 *l.* sterling, such immigrants to be assigned as servants in agriculture by the Agent General of Immigrants.

Encl. 2, in No. 26.

Enclosure 2, in No. 26.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of a Meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 1st May 1858.

Resolved, That his Excellency be requested to bring under the notice of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies the wish of the Board of Council, that he (the Secretary of State) will be pleased to order, that directions be given for the introduction into this Colony at the public expense, as soon as possible, of as many Chinese immigrants as can be introduced into the colony for the sum of 20,000 *l.*, such immigrants to be assigned as labourers in agriculture under the direction of the Agent General of Immigrants.

— No. 27. —

(No. 83.)

No. 27.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M.P.
9 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Trinidad, 9 June 1858.
(Received, 3 July 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 21, 29 July 1858, p. 399.)

Enclosure 1.
Ditto 2.

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of reports from the Agent General of Immigrants and from the Health Officer of the port, the former notifying the arrival of the "Saladin" with Indian immigrants from Calcutta, and the latter describing the sanitary condition of the passengers.

2. Your Lordship will observe that there has been considerable mortality on board this vessel during the voyage, which appears, as far as can be judged, to have resulted from causes not within the control of the officers of the ship.

3. The expenses of this vessel have been defrayed in the Colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Encl. 1, in No. 27.

Enclosure 1, in No. 27.

Sir, Port of Spain, 2 June 1858.

1. I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I visited officially this morning the immigrant ship "Saladin," out 96 days from Calcutta.

2. This ship took on board on her departure 386 coolies, classed as follows: 201 men, 112 women, 37 boys, 18 girls, and 18 infants. There has been one birth on the passage; out of this

this total 51 deaths have occurred, namely, 12 men, 22 women, 6 boys, 4 girls, and 7 infants; there was also a case of suicide. The prevailing diseases causing this great mortality were diarrhœa and dysentery. There are now eight cases requiring medical treatment.

3. It is not easy to determine the causes of so great a number of deaths, as the accommodations of the ship are good, with proper ventilation, and, with the exception of the old complaint of the biscuit, no fault is found. The medical officer is intelligent and understands Bengalee, and, as well as the captain, seems to have cared for the people well.

4. From their accounts it can be only referred to many of the coolies having been recently collected from the swampy jungles around Calcutta, and having brought with them the seeds of disease, developed after going to sea by sea-sickness and the prostration attending it.

5. The physical appearance of the immigrants is a fair average.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thomas Anderson*, M.D.
Inspector of Health of Shipping.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 27.

Encl. 2, in No. 27.

Sir, Trinidad, 5 June 1858.

1. I have the honour to report for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the ship "Saladin" arrived here on the morning of the 2d instant, with Indian immigrants from Calcutta, viz., 187 men, 90 women, 30 boys, 14 girls, and 12 infants—333 souls. The mortality on the passage amounted to 13 men, 22 women, 6 boys, 4 girls, and 6 infants—51 souls; 5 men and 2 women were sent to the colonial hospital. Notwithstanding the percentage of deaths the remainder of the people were in remarkably good order, almost as much so as those landed ex "Ellenborough."

2. The "Saladin" was well ventilated and thoroughly clean, the condition of the ship and passengers being creditable alike to the officers and to the Surgeon Superintendent, Mr. Cameron. The weather throughout was remarkably fine, the stern ports never shut, and the side scuttles open during 90 days of 98 that the voyage lasted.

3. The mortality was chiefly confined to natives of Lower Bengal.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Mitchell*,
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

P.S.—An infant was born and died at sea, and one man died after the visit of the Health Officer and before the distribution.

(signed) *Henry Mitchell.*

— No. 28. —

(No. 84.)

No. 28.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M.P. 22 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P.

Trinidad, 22 June 1858.
(Received, 19 July 1858.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 39, 17 September 1858, p. 406.)

1. REFERRING to my Despatch, No. 83, of the 9th June instant, in which I reported the arrival of the ship "Saladin" with immigrants from Calcutta, I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a report addressed to the Agent General of Immigrants, which I had called for, by the Surgeon Superintendent of the ship, stating his view of the causes of the unusual mortality which had taken place during the voyage.

Enclosure.

2. Notwithstanding this mortality the condition of the coolies landed from the "Saladin" was such as to prove that they had been treated with very great care and kindness by the officers in charge. So convinced was I of this that I thought myself justified in relaxing the stringency of the regulations laid down in Mr. Labouchere's Despatch, No. 41, of the 25th May 1857, with regard to gratuities, and acting rather in accordance with the spirit than the letter of those regulations, I have awarded to the officers of the "Saladin" a rather larger sum than the balance strictly due to them. Last year, previously to the present regulations being in force, 50 cents per head was given on each coolie landed alive. The mortality was great, but it appeared to have arisen from causes by no means thoroughly understood, and apparently independent of the surgeon's control or the captain's precautions. Such seems to have been the case in this instance also. Three hundred and thirty-three immigrants were

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landed alive and in good health from the "Saladin," but 384 were embarked at Calcutta. The account would, therefore, have stood thus: to gratuity on 384 souls embarked at Calcutta, at 4*s.* 2*d.* per head, 80*l.*, less 46 died and 7 sent to hospital; 53, at 1*l.* 5*s.* per head, 66*l.* 5*s.*; balance due, 13*l.* 15*s.* In lieu of this small balance, I trust I shall have your Lordship's approval for having awarded to the officers, in accordance with last year's precedent, 50 cents per head on all the coolies landed alive, making together a sum of 34*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

Encl. in No. 28.

Enclosure in No. 28.

Sir, Port of Spain, 8 June 1858.

1. In compliance with your instructions, I now beg to enter into a statement of my views as to what the unusual mortality amongst the coolies, till lately under my medical charge on board the ship "Saladin," should be justly attributed to.

2. The evening of the day we parted company from the steamer off Sand Heads well marked symptoms of cholera, which proved rapidly fatal, occurred in a weakly woman, who had then been suffering from diarrhœa a few days previously. Means were immediately taken to arrest the further propagation of the malady, by isolation, the strictest attention to cleanliness, ventilation, and daily fumigations of chloride of lime. We had every reason to congratulate ourselves on the results of these measures, as till the 10th of March no indications of the presence of the disease amongst the coolies could be detected. On and after that date, I had cases daily under treatment until the end of the same month, when it gradually disappeared, and we kept entirely free from it throughout the remainder of the passage. Six casualties from cholera occurred on board. That the pre-disposition to the disease was contracted on shore by those first affected, I cannot doubt, the depression of mind natural to their altered circumstances experienced by the majority of the coolies for the first few days after their embarkation acting probably as an exciting cause.

3. On a reference to my journal, it will be learnt that cases of diarrhœa and dysentery were most numerous on board, under which heads also most of the casualties are enumerated. A limited number of coolies, I found, by observation a few days after our departure, to be cases of dysentery in its chronic stage. At the medical examination held prior to their embarkation, the general emaciation of these cases excited suspicion; but as they denied all symptoms of actual disease, it was rationally enough concluded that the change at sea would prove beneficial. Most of these cases, I must add, were mothers of promising families, which fact operated much in their favour. I found the sick exceedingly prone to conceal the disorders they were labouring under, and very few indeed appreciated the medical comforts allowed them. A mess of rice for dinner cooked to suit their tastes into a dish styled by them "rhicheree," and rice water *ad libitum*, with wine, I found to answer admirably as a diet for sick adults. The sago and arrowroot I preserved as nourishment for all weakly infants. That the allowance of biscuit daily served out was by the majority of the coolies seldom or never used, is a fact generally known on board. Disordered digestive functions, which I attribute solely to the biscuit diet, came daily under my observation, evidenced by colicky pains, and more frequent evacuations than usual. These, when brought to timely notice, were generally effectually relieved by a dose of castor oil, or other gentle aperient; but in too many cases, I fear, my attention was sought for only after nature had been trusted to in vain, and the more formidable disorders of the same nature—diarrhœa and dysentery—had established themselves. None of the sick were allowed biscuit after admission into hospital; and if it could be entirely dispensed with as an article of diet (the coolies I know would gladly accept rice as a substitute), I feel convinced the mortality would be materially diminished by the change.

4. In conclusion, I would respectfully bring to your favourable notice the unvarying kindness and attention shown the coolies by the captain and officers of the ship. Indulgences denied, the crew were freely open to them, and it was highly gratifying to me to witness at parting a few days ago the good feeling which had been established between all classes.

I am, &c.
(signed) *C. T. Cameron*, Surgeon,
Late in Charge of Immigrants per ship "Saladin."

The Emigration Agent General, Trinidad.

— No. 29. —

(No. 99.)

No. 29. Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P. 10 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

Trinidad, 10 July 1858.
(Received, 2 August 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 50, 14 October 1858, p. 407.)

1. I HAVE the honour to report to you the arrival, on the 2d instant, of the "Salsette," with Indian immigrants from Calcutta, and to enclose the reports of the Agent General of Immigrants and the Health Officer thereon. Enclosure 1. Enclosure 2.

2. I regret to say that great mortality has taken place during the voyage, which extended over 108 days, no less than 37 men, 39 women, 12 boys, 18 girls, and 18 infants, having died out of the original number shipped, which amounted to 323 souls.

3. I shall take the earliest opportunity of communicating to you the results of Dr. Mitchell's examination of the journal of the Surgeon Superintendent of the ship, and of whatever other inquiries I may be enabled to make into the causes of the very unusual loss of life which has occurred during the passage.

4. The expenses attending this shipment of immigrants will be defrayed here.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 29.

Encl. 1, in No. 29.

Sir, Immigration Office, 7 July 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the ship "Salsette," Sewinton master, 108 days from Calcutta, arrived here on the evening of the 2d instant, having on board 108 men, 60 women, 20 boys, 9 girls, and 2 infants, equal to 199 souls; of this number, 5 men, 6 women, and 1 boy were sent to colonial hospital; 1 man, 1 boy, and 3 girls, orphans, were transferred to the Indian Training School and Orphan Asylum at Tacarigua; in this instance, as on a former occasion, the party registered as a man was merely so in reference to the passage money, ten years of age constituting an adult; I therefore sent the individual in question to the training school along with his two orphan sisters.

The mortality on board the "Salsette" amounted to 37 men, 39 women, 12 boys, 18 girls, and 18 infants, equal to 124 souls. Notwithstanding this fearful loss by death, the remainder were, with few exceptions, in tolerably good condition, and had evidently received every attention from a skilful surgeon, whose success in landing return immigrants at Calcutta in the month of February augured a happier result. I propose offering some remarks on the casualties attending the present system of immigration to Trinidad, as soon as I shall have had an opportunity of examining the report and journal of the Surgeon Superintendent of the ship "Salsette."

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Hon. Thomas F. Johnston,
Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 29.

Encl. 2, in No. 29.

Sir, Port of Spain, 3 July 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I visited officially yesterday afternoon the Indian ship "Salsette", out 105 days from Calcutta, having called at St. Helena.

This ship took on board on her departure 326 coolies, including two topases, classed as follows: 145 men, 100 women, 32 boys, 27 girls, and 20 infants; of these, there have died on the passage 37 men, 39 women, 18 girls, 11 boys, and 18 infants. The prevailing diseases were dysentery and cholera, and most of the deaths ensued soon after leaving Calcutta. In order to arrive at the causes of so fearful a mortality, I have conferred with the captain, medical officer in charge, and the topases; and from their reports made to me in the presence of each other, it results that many of these people were Sangalee, that is to say, inhabiting swampy jungle, and were sent on board with sickly constitutions, rendering them more susceptible of disease. Concurrent causes are also to be found in this having been the last

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ship, and freighted with subjects rejected by those which had sailed before. Also, the obnoxious biscuit diet, which the medical men of other immigrant ships have condemned as unfitted to the Hindoo constitution, was given every other day, and the dhol was of an inferior quality. The accommodations and ventilation are moreover not so good as usually found in East India ships, and there was a noisome smell between decks. As might be expected, the physical appearance of these coolies is below the average, and they have as a whole a sickly and dejected look; 12 are reported to be sent to hospital, one of whom appeared to be in a dying state.

Superadded to these reasons, these people are dirty, and to my inquiries on this subject, the answer was that the only clothing they had was that on their bodies, and no change had been provided for them.

I have, &c.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

(signed) *Thos. Anderson*, M.D.
Inspector of Health of Shipping.

— No. 30. —

No. 30.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M.P.
17 July 1858.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

(No. 100.) Trinidad, 17 July 1858.
(Received, 16 August 1858.)

(Answered, No. 30, 26 August 1858, p. 401.)

The decision arrived at by Lord Stanley, on considering the general question of the agents to be employed for collecting emigrants in India for the West Indies, and communicated to me in his Lordship's Circular Despatch of the 4th June last, has been received with lively satisfaction in this Colony; and that feeling is expressed in the copy of a resolution of the Council of Government, passed on the 12th instant, which I have the honour to enclose.

Enclosure.

It has been determined, upon mature consideration (as you will observe, sir, by the tenor of that resolution), that for the present no agent for Trinidad should be sent to Bombay, because there is an impression (and it is desirable to ascertain its correctness in the first instance), that with its own special agents the Colony will be able to obtain all the Indian immigrant labour it requires from the two other Presidencies, and that it is unnecessary, therefore, to incur the expense of providing a salary for a third agent, at a port which is comparatively untried.

The salaries proposed for the agents to be appointed for Calcutta and Madras are 1,200 *l.* and 1,000 *l.* respectively. From all that I can learn of the labour markets of the two places, there exist fewer inducements to emigration in Madras than in Calcutta. The salaries of the agents were therefore fixed with a view to their bearing some proportion to the results likely to be produced in each place; but it appears doubtful whether the smaller sum will be sufficient to secure the services of a properly qualified person; and since the resolution was passed, regret has been expressed that the two were not put upon the same footing, and a readiness has been evinced to amend it in this particular.

Other expenses, besides the agents' salaries, will have to be charged against the immigration funds of the Colony; and a subject, fraught with so much importance to it, should be treated, in Lord Stanley's words, with liberality as well as prudence. Provision must be made for the rent of offices at the different Presidencies; and the salaries of clerks, interpreters, and native agents, and the expenses of the agents, when travelling for the purposes of the agency, should, I presume, be allowed to them in addition to their salaries. In alluding to these matters, however, I am conscious of much ignorance of the details of the service, as conducted in India.

It will also be necessary that a sum should be allowed to each agent for his voyage to India; and should he proceed from hence, 250 *l.* would seem to be a fair amount. Should he be appointed in and proceed from England, a proportionate reduction might, of course, be made. In the former contingency also it will probably be found requisite to make an advance to each agent on his salary, say, of from 300 *l.* to 400 *l.*, to be repaid by equal quarterly deductions,

tions, during the two years for which it is proposed they should, in the first instance, hold their appointments. This advance would, of course, involve the possibility of loss to the Colony, by the death of either agent before the expiration of the two years; but the circumstances of persons in this island who might be willing to accept the appointments, would not permit them to meet their preliminary expenses from their own unaided means.

With reference to the question of the individuals to be employed as such agents, I have felt that I should not be justified in acting upon the authority given me to select them here, if I were not fully convinced that I could do so in such a manner as to inspire greater confidence in those locally interested in immigration, than if I left the choice to be made in England. I am under the impression, however, that when Lord Stanley devolved this power upon the local authorities, his Lordship supposed that able and energetic men, qualified for the post, could be found among the ranks of the planting community. Such is not the case here. Before exercising my own discretion in the matter, I thought it desirable, and indeed incumbent on me to ascertain the sentiments of the employers of immigrant labour, as I considered that little would be gained by my appointing persons, however qualified in my own judgment, to posts of this nature, in whom full reliance would not be placed by them. Their opinion I found coincided with my own with regard to the fitness of the two gentlemen whose names I have now to submit to you for approval, but who are not members of the planting community, but high in the public service of the island, namely, Mr. T. F. Johnston, the Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Thornton Warner, the Registrar of the Supreme Court. These gentlemen made no direct application for the appointments, but both have expressed their readiness to accept them, on certain conditions; the latter stipulating, besides, that he should receive the same rate of remuneration as the former.

It is obvious that they cannot be expected to give up at once their present offices for appointments which, in the first instance, are to be made for only two years; but an earnest hope is entertained that in a matter of such vital importance to the Colony Her Majesty's Government will give every facility to it in availing itself of the services of the two persons who are believed to be the best qualified, and permit them to be considered for the ensuing two years as upon a mission from this Colony to Calcutta and Madras, and consequently to retain during that time their present offices, although of course not to receive the salaries attached to them.

I have been strongly urged to act at once upon this view of the question, in order to admit of these gentlemen reaching their destinations in time to superintend the emigration of the coming season; and although I do not consider myself authorised to decide a point of the kind in the name and on the part of Her Majesty's Government, yet I am anxious to do what I can to expedite matters. It is no doubt very desirable that there should be no greater delay in the departure of the new agents than is absolutely unavoidable, and that they should be put in a position to make themselves acquainted with the nature of their duties on the spot on which they are to discharge them, at as early a period as possible.

I have only to state, sir, in conclusion, that though I have hesitated much in the steps I have taken with regard to these appointments in India, I am strongly of opinion that the arrangements suggested are the best that could be desired, under all the circumstances of the case, to ensure, on the one hand, a feeling of confidence on the part of the local Government in those who are transacting its business in India, and on the other, to give it that control over them, the want of which was one of the chief complaints against the system which is to be superseded.

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Encl. in No. 30.

Enclosure in No. 30.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated Monday, 12th July 1858.

Resolved,—

1. THAT the Board have received with great satisfaction the Despatch of Lord Stanley, of the 4th day of June, on the subject of the appointment of agents of emigration, communicated to the Board by his Excellency the Governor.

2. That the Board are of opinion that it is expedient to appoint two agents for emigration, one to be stationed at Calcutta, the other at Madras, at salaries of 1,200*l.* per annum to the first, and of 1,000*l.* to the second, besides the expenses of their journey to their several stations, and of their return to this island in case of their being recalled.

3. That such appointments be held at the pleasure of the Governor, but be made for two years only in the first instance.

(A true extract.)
(signed) *Richard D. Cadiz,*
Clerk of Council.

— No. 31. —

(No. 102.)

No. 31. Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P. 19 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

Trinidad, 19 July 1858.
(Received, 16 August 1858.)

Sir,

Enclosure.

1. I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of a letter from the Agent General of Immigrants, in which he states his reasons for thinking it desirable that a ship should be taken up for conveying return coolies to Calcutta, although the number who have inscribed themselves for a passage amounts to only 374, whereas recent experience has shown the necessity of having at least 500 names on the list to ensure a shipment of 250 souls.

2. In addition to the grounds adduced by Dr. Mitchell for suggesting that a ship should be chartered by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, instead of by the local Government, I have to state that I find the "Saladin" and the "Salsette" now in port, having brought immigrants, and one of which I had hoped might have been available for the purpose, are taking in cargoes of sugar for England, and that their masters have no instructions to enable them to enter into ulterior engagements.

3. Concurring in Dr. Mitchell's opinion that it is desirable, if possible, that 250 coolies should be sent back this year to their homes, I have the honour to request that a ship may be chartered and sent out in time to leave this in October, and that the number of passengers guaranteed to it may be 250, with a chance of a larger number being forthcoming.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

Encl. in No. 31.

Enclosure in No. 31.

(No. 28.)

Sir,

Immigration Office, 17 July 1858.

1. I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the number of coolies who have registered their names this year for a return passage to Calcutta amounts only to 374. The lists have been kept open longer than usual, to allow those coolies, 1,200 in number, who terminated their industrial residence between the months of January and July of the current year, and who, as latest free, are usually the most anxious to return to India, an opportunity of doing so; this opportunity, however, they do not appear anxious to embrace, the number of females arrived during the last two years having induced many to delay or altogether postpone their departure.

2. Although the experience of the last few years shows the necessity of having at least 500 expectants before guaranteeing a shipment of 250, still I should deem it advisable to take up a vessel, to leave this in October with that number, as the arrival in India of 250 prosperous and contented coolies would greatly facilitate the operations of the collecting emigration officer during the season of 1859-60.

3. With

3. With regard to the ship employed, although the selection be left in future to the Colonial Government, I would with great deference suggest, that in the present instance the same should be appointed by Her Majesty's Land and Emigration Commissioners, because, owing to the late mortality in vessels carrying immigrants, they have directed extra sanitary precautions to be taken, such as distilling apparatus and more effectual ventilation, changes which could not be easily made in this port without too great delay. The "Saladin," if available on arrival in London, would suit; and as Mr. Dyer, the Surgeon Superintendent of the "Salsette," offers his services, I should recommend him as eligible, from his experience and success with return coolies from Demerara in the "Hamilla Mitchell." I am not of opinion that the mortality among the coolies under his charge in the "Salsette" was attributable in any way to deficient skill or attention on his part.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Mitchell*,
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Honourable Thomas F. Johnston,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 32. —

(No. 108.)

No. 32.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P.
25 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

Trinidad, 25 July 1858.
(Received, 16 August 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 50, 14 October 1858, p. 407.)

1. REFERRING to my Despatch, No. 99,* of the 10th July, in which I reported the arrival of the "Salsette" with Indian emigrants from Calcutta, I have now the honour to forward a copy of a report made to me by the Agent General of Immigrants after inspecting the surgeon's journal, and having recourse to such other sources of information as were open to him with a view to investigating the causes which had operated in producing so large a mortality during the voyage.

* Page 343.

Enclosure.

2. The Committee of Council on Immigration have, at my request, been taking evidence on the subject, copies of which I hope to be enabled to forward by the next mail.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

Enclosure in No. 32.

Encl. in No. 32.

(No. 29.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 23 July 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the diarrhœa and dysentery, which caused such serious mortality on board the "Salsette" and other vessels, long after the deaths from cholera had ceased, do not appear to have been attributable to any single source.

2. They merit serious consideration, not only in their bearing on the general features of immigration, but on particular points of that system, which, when taken separately, might, under other circumstances, have passed unnoticed, and been deemed immaterial.

Pending such investigation I submit the following remarks, partly as a physician, but principally as entrusted with the general management of immigration matters in this Colony.

3. The ship "Salsette," in the preceding year, carried from Hong Kong to Australia 500 Chinese immigrants, with the loss of eight souls; the voyage lasted 98 days, and was, with the exception of one month's sailing, between the tropics; from this it may be inferred, that the ventilation was sufficient for healthy passengers, at least its deficiency caused no mortality. The "Salsette" had then no stern ports.

The medical charge of the coolie immigrants she took on board at Calcutta was entrusted to Mr. Dyer, who, as Surgeon Superintendent of the "Hamilla Mitchell," had landed in good order from Demerara at Calcutta, after a voyage of 156 days; 270 return immigrants, having lost only eight. From this it may be equally inferred, that the medical care and attention selected for the "Salsette" was adequate.

It may throw further light on the subject of ventilation to state here, that during the protracted voyage of the "Hamilla Mitchell," owing to the weather, the ports and scuttles were only opened occasionally, and with great precaution. In the "Salsette," however, previously unsupplied with stern ports, stern ports were pierced, and both these and the

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scuttles were generally open, with the exception of a few days in rounding the Cape, the weather having proved remarkably favourable. This remark as to weather holds good likewise in regard to the "Saladin."

4. Had there been no counteracting influences, a satisfactory state of health among the passengers during the voyage might have been reasonably augured, and a proportionately low concomitant mortality. But the reverse ensued; constant sickness prevailed, and deaths occurred almost daily, up to the arrival of the ship in port.

Careful and repeated examination of the ship and her officers, as well as of the Surgeon Superintendent and of his journals, convince me, that however complex may have been the sources of this steadily increasing mortality, they cannot in any way be attributed to deficient care or skill in the parties to whom the immigrants were entrusted at sea.

I shall therefore enumerate some of those causes which appear to me as most likely to have contributed, directly or indirectly, to the mortality among the immigrants proceeding thither from Calcutta during the last two seasons.

5. Without, however, affirming that any one of these causes could have sufficed, individually, to have produced such results, still I have no hesitation in stating that their united influence might have done so, and therefore, that, by eliminating each as completely as possible, the future transport of these labourers may be protected from everything beyond the casualties of a similar voyage under altered habits of life.

6. In the first place a reference to the ships' tables of mortality show, as far as they may be depended on, that out of 124 deaths on board the "Salsette," 120 were Junglie coolies or lower Bengalees, of anything but vigorous frame, and out of 51 deaths on board the previously arrived ship, the "Saladin," the great majority, as stated by the Surgeon Superintendent, were of the same class, and equally low in physical condition when embarked. These Junglies, although they turn out eventually the most docile, and the most laborious race when safely landed here, remain for a considerable time after embarking in a state of despondency, increased by witnessing the first deaths from cholera, which usually occur on leaving, and aggravated by the depressing effects of sea-sickness.

7. In this state it is not astonishing that a sudden change of diet might occasion serious bowel complaints; accordingly we find that the junglies, whose previous fare was not only light but scanty, disagree with the more generous allowance, of which biscuit constitutes about one-half. The native medical attendants distinctly, on more occasions than one, attributed these derangements of the sigrotive tube to this portion of the diet, and stated that, with the partial or entire stoppage of the biscuit ration, the bowel complaint diminished or disappeared. It is but reasonable to assume that medical attendants, who had seen hospital practice on a large scale in Calcutta, and also in the neighbouring districts, were competent to pronounce as to what should or should not be a fitting diet for their countrymen, whether from Lower Bengal or elsewhere.

8. The third point to which my attention has been naturally drawn in considering the state of the Indian immigrant on embarkation is, that from natural apathy or despondency he cares not or neglects to inform the medical attendant of the first insidious symptoms of diarrhœa or dysentery, which, when neglected, prove fatal as cholera. Here drugs alone are inefficient; the paramount remedy is sympathy and the words of consolation in his native language; a well-timed phrase familiar to the patient's ear entering into his feelings, and showing that the present sickness was but a trifling preliminary to returning home independent, would rouse many a languid eye and listless mind to life.

9. A fourth point, trivial in itself, or when considered in regard to passengers otherwise healthy, requires remark, when taken in connexion with the embarkation of less vigorous immigrants; I allude to the bed fittings; they are, I consider, unnecessarily expensive, and occupy too much room; they are also arranged in such a manner as to be inaccessible to the weakly, and inconvenient to the sick; neither are they indispensable, as the mortality previous to their employment was generally less than it has been since. They are usually placed at such a height, that when the side scuttles are open, the occupant lies exactly between them and the draught from the wind sails. They might be advantageously replaced by boards of the proper dimension, the battens of whose under surface would as effectually keep them from any damp as if they were placed higher.

10. Lastly, although it has been already stated that deficient ventilation has not in any of the cases under consideration been a primary cause of sickness, still it must never be overlooked, that the ventilation, which is ample under ordinary circumstances to preserve the health of a large body of immigrants on board ship, becomes, in cases of epidemics, even of less loathsome nature than those in question, utterly inadequate to purify an atmosphere surcharged with the vitiated emanations and exhalations from the infected. While therefore it is most satisfactory to know that the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Land and Immigration Board are taking measures to provide for the thorough ventilation of ships employed in the carriage of passengers, I would venture to suggest, that in future all cases of sickness among emigrants at sea should be received and attended to in an hospital constructed for that purpose on the upper deck. This I find, from the evidence of several of the masters of these ships, may be raised without interference with the ships' working, and would have the double advantage, not only of keeping the sick apart, and free from the risk of improper communication with others, but would save the majority of the immigrants from the sight of sickness and suffering, an influence which is in itself always lowering.

11. To

11. To resume shortly what has been above stated; the immigrants should be selected of a better quality, and if that be impossible, they should at all events be housed in a wholesome depôt, for such time as would suffice to accustom them to the diet they are to use on board ship. This would in every instance allow the agent to judge of the propriety of embarking any given individual.

Biscuit should not be allowed, unless preferred by the immigrant, and unless the medical officer was satisfied of the propriety of its exhibition.

In every instance the medical attendant should not only be versed in the native tongue, but should have under his orders a couple of native apothecaries, to relieve him from menial duties. The extra expense of this arrangement would probably not exceed the cost of biscuit dispensed with.

The alteration of the fittings.—This would probably be also attended with some slight economy of money, which would be better laid out in the purchase of supplementary woollen clothing, to be handed over to the care of the Surgeon Superintendant for distribution in cold weather.

Lastly, the erection of a suitable hospital on deck. This suggestion was made by Mr. Dyer, the medical attendant of the "Salsette," and in its propriety I fully concur.

I annex a copy of Mr. Dyer's report.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Honourable T. F. Johnston,
Colonial Secretary.

Sir, Ship "Salsette," 7 July 1858.

AGREEABLE to your request for my report on the causes of the high mortality among the coolies in my charge, I beg to submit the following observations for your consideration.

On leaving Calcutta cholera of a very severe type broke out; this may be accounted for by the fact, that at the time we left Calcutta it prevailed at the depôt at Bhowampore where the coolies are collected. To show this, I may mention that last September I had charge of 277 coolies from Demerara to Calcutta; during the time of their being on board (156 days), and with a severe epidemic of diarrhœa, &c., only eight deaths occurred, one of those sudden death from heart affection; whilst within a week of their being landed, I was informed of the deaths of four of them of cholera, as strong and healthy men as possible on leaving the ship.

The Lower Bengalies, or Junglies, constituting more than two-thirds of our number in the "Salsette," appear to me far more prone to disease and are far less amenable to treatment than the Upper Bengalies or townspeople.

Until this voyage I was unacquainted with the difference; but the plan I have adopted in distinguishing the two classes has been, first, having the topases point out the Junglies, and then having their opinion confirmed by that of our third officer, who for seven months had gangs of Bengalies under his supervision up at the "Mutlah." According to calculation based on this mode of distinction, the difference of relative mortality is startling; of 201 Bengalies (Upper) 4 died, or 4 per cent. nearly, whilst of 223 Lower Bengalies, 120 died, or 53·8 per cent. The Junglies seem to be a weaker and more dirty race than the others; they are more lazy in their habits, and there is far more difficulty in enforcing cleanliness among them; rather than come on deck during the night to obey the calls of nature, they will ease themselves in their blankets and clothing; this Captain Swinton and myself have time after time seen to be the case, whilst visiting the lower deck at night, in order to enforce cleanliness, but in vain endeavoured to prevent.

Then rather than take the trouble of washing their foul clothes, they prefer throwing them over the ship's side; the consequence of this has been, that by the time we arrived at the Cape, numbers of them were almost without any clothing, whilst the townspeople were comparatively well clad; fortunately I had taken the precaution of having the clothes of those who died well washed, &c., and put by, and was enabled te serve them out during (to coolies) the inclement weather off the Cape. The children (among whom the greatest proportionate mortality occurred) especially suffered from this cause; many of them had clothing given them as often as three or four times, or more, and yet afterwards were found almost, and even completely naked.

I think on these grounds the conclusion is justifiable that the Junglies are by far least fitted for a long sea voyage. Diarrhœa and dysentery have been the chief causes of deaths, and these diseases are propagated and intensified by the filthy habits of the Junglies, which not only have an injurious effect on themselves, but also on their companions, the townspeople or Upper Bengalies.

The unsuccessful result of medical treatment I attribute to the fact that they have a repugnance to taking medicines, and allow disease to run on without applying for relief, and even deny being ill when questioned, until their wasting, weakly appearance betrays them, and when their malady is beyond the control of our art; of course this want of confidence in the European mode of treatment is greatly adverse to a favourable termination.

With a view to elicit anything that might assist inquiry I questioned one of the topases, and he states, "the Junglies do not like or believe in the European medicines, but would like a Jungly doctor (Bengalie) and medicines; those coolies who came from the towns prefer Bengalie medicines, but have not such a rooted dislike to our English remedies." This being the case, might it not be worth while to send a Jungly (Bengalie) practitioner

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titioner, subject to the supervision of, and to act in concert with, the Surgeon Superintendent.

Their idle habits greatly predispose them to disease; it is observed by Dr. Guy "with the exception of the hardships to which the very poorest and most destitute members of society are exposed, there is no more fruitful source of disease than inactivity of mind and body." Both with return coolies and these, I found the lazy habits of the people an insuperable obstacle to all my endeavours to get them to take any exercise; nor until within a week's sail of St. Helena did I have any measure of success. Since that time, whenever possible, I compelled the men, women, and children, for half an hour or more daily, in turns to walk or run round the lower deck; at first it was evidently irksome, but after a time the people generally seemed to like and enjoy it, though unless I was there personally they would sit down and give up running.

One unexpected effect was, that it exposed many who were sick, several who had been for several days denying that they were ill, unable to take any exercise, either admitted being ill to avoid it, or else betrayed themselves by urgent necessity or their feeble steps.

Respecting biscuit as an article of diet, I have made close inquiries and find that the coolies themselves during the passage have made remarks to the effect that it disagreed with the Lower Bengalie (Junglies) and induced bowel complaint, but in justice to myself, I must add that it had not been mentioned to me previous to our arrival here, although I have often questioned the topasses concerning any food disagreeing with the coolies.

On looking over the ages of those who have died, it will be found that nearly a third are infants or children; many of the former might I think have been saved, had we had preserved milk; of the latter, some I consider suffered from the neglect on the part of their parents, others, whose parents died, pined and were greatly dejected in spirits (another predisposing cause of disease). It would be advisable to insist on families of children having both parents when shipped.

I have enclosed a paper containing a few memoranda of changes in the arrangements, which I consider highly important. Mrs. and Captain Swinton, and the officers of the ship have assisted me as much as possible by their attention to the coolies.

I have &c.

To Henry Mitchell, Esq., M. D.
Government Emigration
Agent, Trinidad.

(signed) *John E. Dyer*,
Surgeon Superintendent, Ship "Salsette."

MEMORANDA.

1. *P.S.*—A large proportion of the people had lost their blankets and warm clothing long before getting into cold weather. It would be advisable, as in the return passage, to give them all in charge of the Surgeon Superintendent, to be given out when required for use; if some linen clothing were also given, it would be of great assistance in promoting cleanliness; many of the people, especially women, could not be washed, as they had but one cloth; if that were wetted and worn so, it would have been prejudicial to health.

2. Preserved milk is very much needed for the use of infants, and the younger children.

3. A greater number of topasses are required; one should be especially adapted as a nurse; good and assiduous nursing being more calculated to benefit these coolies when sick than any medical attendance or medicines.

4. Separate hospital on deck. This is a point which I consider highly desirable. In the disease from which they suffer chiefly, the continual effluvia of the offensive and fœtid stools passed, must be calculated to produce a most deleterious effect, however soon they may be removed, and their immediate removal even cannot be always ensured; moreover, the presence of sick and dying has a depressing effect, rendering men more prone to disease.

These reasons, without alluding to contagion, suffice to show the need of separate hospital accommodation; another advantage would accrue; the sick would be under closer observation than below; it would be more easy to prevent their receiving unsuitable food from their friends (hoofs, potatoe-peelings, and sheep skin have been taken from them); moreover, it would better allow their true state to be seen, for no dependence can be placed on their account of themselves; *e. g.* often when asked if they are purged, they will answer in the negative, and as often on subsequent inquiry among the night watchmen, I have been told they were so continually.

— No. 33. —

No. 33.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P.
4 August 1858.

(No. 109.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

Trinidad, 4 August 1858.
(Received, 2 September 1858.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 60, 9 November 1858, p. 408.)

*Page 344.

WITH reference to my Despatch, No. 100*, of the 17th July, I have now the honour of forwarding to you a copy of a further resolution of the Board of Council, modifying and altering that adopted at its previous meeting, a copy of which I enclosed in the Despatch alluded to. The information with regard to the emigration from Madras, conveyed in your Despatch, No. 10,† of the 17th June,

Enclosure.

†Page 399.

June, and its enclosures, has strengthened an opinion I already entertained that the inducements to emigrate from that Presidency are by no means so great as at Calcutta, and that though it has been thought advisable for the present to provide no special agent for Bombay, it would be as well that the two to be appointed should be available for any station, including China, if necessary, where the chances of obtaining labour may appear hereafter to be favourable. In this view the Council concurred; but it was considered that, under such an arrangement, the distinction originally proposed to be made between the two appointments in regard to salary could not be maintained.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Enclosure in No. 33. Encl. in No. 33.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated Monday, 2 August 1858.

"THAT, in lieu of two emigration agents to be appointed specially for Calcutta and Madras, two agents be appointed for the East Indies and China, to be stationed at such places as the Governor may from time to time direct, with salaries of 1,200 *l.* a year each, with their travelling expenses to and from such places, and in the country, whilst in the performance of their duties."—Carried.

(A true extract.)
(signed) *Richard D. Cadiz,*
Clerk of Council.

— No. 34. —

(No. 115.)

No. 34. Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P. 9 August 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

Trinidad, 9 August 1858.
(Received, 2 September 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 50, 14 October 1858, p. 407.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, in continuation of the information I have already forwarded in regard to the loss of life on board the "Salsette," coolie ship, a copy of a letter I have received from the Chairman of the Committee of Council on Immigration, together with copies of the evidence taken by them at my request, with a view to elucidate the cause of so large a rate of mortality.

Enclosure 1.

Enclosure 2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 34. Encl. 1, in No. 34.

Sir, Attorney General's Office, 9 August 1858.

I HAVE the honour to state, that, in obedience to your Excellency's wish, the Committee on Immigration, on the 12th instant, inquired into the cause of the loss of life which had taken place among the immigrants embarked at Calcutta on board the "Salsette" for this island.

2. They examined the master, the doctor, and the chief and third officer of the "Salsette," and also the master and the doctor of the "Saladin."

I forward a copy of the evidence which was taken.

The opinion of the Committee is, that the loss of life arose principally from the inferior physical condition of the immigrants who were put on board, and in some degree from the partial substitution of biscuit for rice as food. It does not appear that there was any want of proper attention to the immigrants when on board to which this lamentable loss of life can be in any way ascribed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles W. Warner,*
Chairman.

His Excellency
Robert William Keate, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 34. Encl. 2, in No. 34.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, Wednesday, 21 July 1858.

Present:—Agent General of Immigrants, Mr. Spiers, Mr. Alexander Stewart, Attorney General.

Edolphus Swinton (Master of the "Salsette").—I received 324 immigrants at Calcutta on the 16th March 1858. I arrived in Trinidad on the 2d July 1858. I landed only

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201; the others (203) died on the voyage. They commenced dying from the moment the pilot left the ship. At the beginning there were some cases of cholera, afterwards dysentery, without scarcely an exception. The persons put on board were very emaciated, the generality of them. They looked not only badly fed, but a weakly race of people. Their average age was 35. There were not many old people; a great many children; I mean under ten; about 58 or 59 such children. The greater number of deaths was of grown people. I took all the people on board in about two hours. As soon as I had time to look at the people, I thought them a miserable set. Mr. Caird said to me, as the people were coming on board, that they were as fine a set of people as he had seen shipped that season. I had a medical man on board, Mr. Dyer. I had a coolie interpreter for the use of the coolies. There were two topases, but one only could act as interpreter. The vessel had been inspected frequently by the person who was acting as agent in lieu of Mr. Caird, a Mr. Eales, accompanied by Captain Hill. They were satisfied with the arrangements of the vessel. The vessel was in every respect in accordance with their wishes. The diet I took on board for the coolies, by the direction of the agent, was rice, biscuit, dholl, and pepper, according to the Government regulations. They had biscuit every other day for breakfast. I cannot say that we ever suspected the biscuit was unwholesome. I cannot account for the loss, except by the emaciated condition of the people, and sea sickness, and want of cleanliness. The greatest mortality was about the time when we were crossing the Line. The weather was very wet, for three or four days in succession, and again off the Cape, in the cold weather, which lasted a fortnight. Every possible attention that could be paid, was paid day and night; there was no neglect on my part, or on that of any person on board. In 1857 I took upwards of 500 Chinese in one voyage on board the same ship from Hong Kong to Australia. They were voluntary emigrants. The passage lasted 95 days. I lost only eight people; without a medical man on board, except a Chinese doctor. The diet of the Chinese was different: salt pork, salt beef, and salt fish, and rice, according to a scale fixed by the English authorities at Hong Kong. There was no difficulty in collecting the Chinese; I could have got twice as many Chinese if my ship could have held them; part were carried on a spar deck. The ventilation on the voyage to Australia with the Chinese was much inferior to that during my last voyage with the coolies. Nothing could be more favourable than the weather, during the voyage of the "Salsette" to Trinidad, for ventilation and allowing the people to be on deck, even at their meals, and from daylight until dark.

John Edward Dyer.—I am a member of the Royal College of Surgeons. I came in the "Salsette" as medical man; I inspected the coolies who were shipped in the "Salsette," the day before they came on board; I saw them at the depôt at Bhonantpore, in the presence of Dr. Scriven; I had never seen any coolies, except return coolies from Demerara; the people for the "Salsette" seemed decidedly inferior to the return coolies; the greater part of the coolies for the "Salsette" were Lower Bengali, or persons from the jungles, generally called "Junglees." Dr. Scriven made no objection to the people who were put on board, except to nine, of whom I have a list here; I also objected to these people; but Dr. Scriven said, that after all they had better go, as there were special reasons, such as their having families on board; I believe the "Salsette" got the last people who were in the depôt; the examination of the people occupied only a day; when I saw the people, I told Dr. Scriven, who had been my fellow pupil in London, that I had no acquaintance with the appearance of the coolies in India, so as to judge of their probable health, but that, comparing these people with the return coolies from Demerara, whom I had just landed, they appeared very inferior indeed, and I begged Dr. Scriven to aid me in the best way he could with his judgment; he acquiesced; he passed the people, and signed the usual certificate; I then put my initials to it. Of the people put on board the "Salsette" there were scarcely a dozen whom I could compare in point of physical condition with the people landed from the "Hamilla Mitchell," from Demerara. I have made out a table* of the deaths, showing the ages and number of persons, and whether Lower Bengalees or not; the dates of death appear in the journal; I could add the dates; the proportion of deaths of Junglees was 120 Junglees out of 124. The means by which I distinguished Junglees from others was, the opinion of the topase interpreter and that of our third officer, who had worked gangs of the Junglees on the Mutlah, near Calcutta. The deaths commenced soon after leaving the Sand Heads, principally of cholera. There were also cases of diarrhœa and dysentery. During the voyage I did not suspect the biscuit as unwholesome. During the later part of the voyage the coolies among themselves objected to the biscuit, but I did not hear of this until after my arrival here. From what I have heard here, I now think the biscuit may have been a bad diet for the coolies. On the return voyage of the "Hamilla Mitchell" from Demerara the food used was one pound and a half of rice, four ounces dholl, besides turmeric, onions and salt fish during bad weather, which the people relished very much. The voyage of the "Hamilla Mitchell" lasted 156 days from Demerara. We had 277 return coolies; of these only eight died. The ventilation of the "Hamilla Mitchell" was not equal to that of the "Salsette." I had a good deal of sickness on board the "Hamilla Mitchell," among the crew and officers as well as the coolies; it began three weeks after we left Demerara, and lasted for about four weeks; the "Salsette" was cleaner than the "Hamilla Mitchell;" there were greater facilities for keeping it so, such as holey-stones and sand; in the "Salsette"

* The original of this table is in Dr. Mitchell's hands.

"Salsette" personal cleanliness was enforced as far as possible; they were made to wash themselves; we had hogsheads, ton butts, cut in two for baths; there was soap on board for the coolies; they used it; the clothing was very indifferent, and ill adapted for the coolies; very much so; there were two blankets for each person—very poor, and trousers made of a common cotton; they did not like the trousers; when we were off the Cape, I made them put on trousers and warm clothing; they would not wear the trousers; sometimes they wore them round their necks, and sometimes used them to wipe up dirt; many of them lost or threw away their clothing at a very early period of the passage.

I should recommend the substitution of blue shirts, or flannel or woollen wrappers; I think that in all the immigration vessels the hospital ought to be removed to the main deck; where there are many cases of dysentery between-deck, the air gets so vitiated as to be unfit for healthy respiration. I think that there ought to be a better class of assistants for the surgeons on board of those vessels.

John Passmore.—I am third officer of the "Salsette." I had been a voyage with coolies in 1854 from Calcutta to Trinidad, on board the "Windsor." It was part of my duty, on board the "Salsette," to see to the distribution of food among the coolies. It was regularly and fully distributed. I speak Bengalee. They complained at one time of not having enough rice, and the captain increased the ration by two ounces rice more. They made no complaint of the biscuit. They ate it. Last year I was on the Mutlah with gangs of coolies clearing land. The larger portion of the coolies on board the "Salsette" were what are called Junglees. They were very inferior to the people employed on the Mutlah. I would not have employed them. No one on the Mutlah would have employed them. We were clearing the land and building rice warehouses on the Mutlah. I considered the people put on board the "Salsette" a very inferior set of people.

Peter Handyside.—I am the chief officer of the "Salsette." I have been four voyages with coolies, three from Calcutta and one from Madras to Mauritius in 1845 and 1846, before this voyage of the "Salsette." They were very superior people to those by the "Salsette." I was quite surprised at the people put on board the "Salsette"; they were so inferior, physically. I cannot account for the loss of life on board the "Salsette," except from the poor and sickly condition of the people. Some of the people were under the impression that they were going to the Mauritius, where they had been before. There was more attention paid to the people on board the "Salsette" than I ever saw in any other vessel. Everything was done to insure cleanliness. Night watches were set for the express purpose—

James Henry Baillie.—I am the master of the "Saladin;" I brought coolies to Trinidad (1st June last); I never carried coolies before; I took on board 384 people, 333 arrived; I lost 51 (fifty-one). The deaths were caused, I think, by the emaciated state of the people when put on board. The major part of the people improved in health very much during the voyage. I had only six or seven cases of cholera, the others were cases of diarrhœa and dysentery. The people landed were considered by Dr. Mitchell to be in a very good condition. Of the 51, many were very old persons; five were too old to have undertaken the voyage. If they had lived their labour would not have greatly benefited the colony. We had a most favourable passage, and never once had occasion to close the hatches. There would be no difficulty in having the hospital on deck. I think the clothing should not be delivered to the coolies themselves before leaving Calcutta, but should be put under the control of the master or surgeon. I would substitute woollen clothing or wrappers in lieu of cotton and trousers. At Calcutta there is a regulation, that every native sailor shall be provided with two woollen suits at the expense of the vessel.

Charles Cameron.—I am the doctor of the "Saladin." My experience leads me to object to the biscuit diet, especially for the people from Lower Bengal; I had three years' hospital practice at Calcutta and seven years up the country. The ration should be about 20 ounces of rice per day. I think a finer race of people could be procured higher up than Calcutta, at Hooghly.

— No. 35. —

(No. 126.)

No. 35.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.
22 Sept. 1858.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.; dated Trinidad, 22 September 1858.

(Received, 15 October 1858.)

(Answered, No. 65, 17 November 1858, p. 411.)

THE first, entitled, "An Ordinance for raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the year 1859."*

The fees payable upon the indentures of Indian immigrants arriving in the Colony between the time of the passing of the Ordinance and the 1st day of November 1859 are raised from 2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*, the additional amount, however, being made returnable in the event of no more than 2,200 adults being introduced during that period. Should the whole number of 3,000 be received, the funds applicable to immigration will be augmented by 7,500*l.*

*Vide Appendix, No. 26, page 566.

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— No. 36. —

No. 36.
Governor Keate to the Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. 26 Sept. 1858.

(No. 131.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart.; dated Trinidad, 26 September 1858.

(Received, 1 November 1858.)

BUT it is to the continuous, though expensive and by no means sufficient stream of immigration which has flowed into the island during the years under review, that it is mainly indebted for the progress it has achieved. In addition to his usual annual report, a copy of which I transmitted in my Despatch, (No. 19),* of the 11th February last, the Agent General of Immigrants has taken the occasion of the close of a full period of five years' industrial residence to draw up some tabular statements, and to offer some remarks upon them, with a view to showing, upon more complete data than he had previously at his command, in what manner the inseparable interests of the workman and the employer have been promoted by this particular importation of foreign labour. I append a copy of his remarks and tables. Perhaps in no sugar-growing colony, unless it is Mauritius, has the introduction of labour from abroad become so completely a part of the ordinary business of its local Government as in Trinidad. It is an island so favoured by nature in regard to its situation, its soil and its climate, that but one element of wealth remains to be developed in it by artificial means, namely, the possession of a population proportionate to its cultivable extent. So attractive a field of employment does it offer, that it profits by a considerable voluntary immigration from the neighbouring Colonies, nor are the exertions of individuals wanting to obtain reinforcements from more distant places, which from time to time may be open to them; but the supply from the first of these sources is very uncertain, and that from the latter very partial, comparatively few proprietors being in a condition to avail themselves of it, even by combinations among themselves. Government agency, therefore, is looked to as the medium by which the artificial increase of the population can best be fostered; and indeed to restrict by legislative enactments and administrative arrangements the native races within an area compatible with the improvement of their social condition, and gradually, though more quickly than natural means could suffice to effect, to fill up that area, and then extend its limits, would seem to be in fact but different modes of carrying out the same line of policy.

* Page 329.

Encl. in No. 36.

Enclosure in No. 36.

(No. 27.)

Sir, Immigration Office, 1 June 1858.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, a few remarks on those immigrants who arrived in Trinidad in the year 1853, accompanied by tabular statements of their number and distribution then, and in the present year.

They were partly Chinese and partly Indian; as the latter were the more numerous, they shall be first considered:

1. This is probably the only occasion which has hitherto presented itself in the immigration annals of this Colony, of drawing reliable inferences on a sufficiently extensive basis as to the advantages or disadvantages attending the introduction of foreign labour into Trinidad. Although the statistical details on which the following observations are founded be somewhat meagre, owing to the extent of the Colony and the deficiency of adequate local surveillance, yet enough may be gleaned from their data to approximate, at least, towards two important points, viz. How far, in the first place, the Colony has benefited by the introduction of these immigrants? and how far, in the second, the benefit has been mutual, in transporting the latter from the squalid misery of their native cabins, to scenes of comparative general comfort and occasional affluence.

2. The first question, as to the benefit derived by the Colony from this introduction of foreign labour, admits of easy solution in different ways, whether we regard the increased demand for the sources of the immigrant, or the augmentation in amount of staples exported during the cycle comprised in the five years of his industrial residence.

The increased demand for immigrant labour of late years, has been attributed, on the one hand, to the growing enterprise of the sugar planter; and, on the other hand, to the gradual withdrawal of the native labourer from the same. Without deciding on the relative influence of either or of both these agencies, I shall proceed at once to extract, from the records of this office, several statements which speak clearly for themselves.

4. In

4. In 1852, the applications made to this office for immigrant labour, to arrive in 1853, were 80 in number, for an aggregate of 2,000 coolies, averaging about 25 for each estate applying; while, in 1857, the corresponding demand rose to 7,000, from 179 properties, averaging about 40 to each applicant, accompanied by a voluntary offer, on the part of the employers, to double the fees payable to Government on the contract of each immigrant, when the question of labour was at stake. This application was joined in by every sugar estate in the colony, save one whose situation, adjoining the town of Port of Spain, rendered it independent of indentured labour.

5. As regards increased production, the crops of sugar in the West Indies must be taken with some reservation, as criteria of the amount of labour required for their production, because they depend much upon the meteorology of the preceding and accompanying seasons; being, *cæteris paribus*, proportioned to the amount and distribution of the rain-fall in each year. During the years 1854, 1855, 1856 and 1857, which immediately followed the large increase of immigrant labour in the year 1853, the sugar crops of the Colony, were as follows:

	Hhds. Sugar.	*Pun. Mol.*
1854	37,987	14,712
1855	31,693	6,300
1856	34,441	10,240
1857	35,523	11,188

While the crops from 1842 to 1845 inclusive, which immediately preceded the introduction of coolie labour were, respectively:

	Hhds. Sugar.	*Pun. Mol.*
1842	20,506	6,869
1843	24,088	9,736
1844	21,800	9,240
1845	25,399	10,386

It is, therefore, self-evident, that the employers of agricultural labour in this island have largely extended the sphere of their operations since the introduction of Asiatic immigrants. It would be no difficult task to enumerate estates which have more than doubled their produce since 1846, others long abandoned or nearly so, have risen from their ruins, and a few of late years, have been established on newly cleared forest land. It may not be, that in most of these instances, the planters have heavy balances in their favour at the local bank; but mortgages of ancient date and almost hopeless amount have been settled, the labourers earn a higher aggregate of wages, their houses are comfortable, the manufacturing machinery, whether fixed or moveable, is more powerful, and the planter himself has fairly contributed to, or rather created that increased commerce, which has at this moment enabled the Colony to provide ample means for the introduction of suitable labour from the most distant shores, to replace what has here become gradually independent of field work, or inefficient.

6. Having so far briefly considered the results of Eastern immigration on the condition and prospects of the planter, I would as briefly direct attention to its effects on the immigrants themselves. The same year, 1853, which witnessed the arrival in Trinidad of the 2,040 coolies under consideration, witnessed also the embarkation for Calcutta of return coolies by the "Shand" and "Bucephalus," with their wives and children, and the somewhat agreeable impedimenta of $45,000 of declared money in silver, besides concealed amounts. These return immigrants were superior in physical development to the newly arrived, and were, with the exception of a few, taken from the asylum and hospital, in vigorous health; not only was their appearance above par, as remarked by Mr. Caird during his visit to this Colony, but competent evidence had established the fact, that they had acquired habits of continuous industry, foreign to their previous character; results which may be attributed to their earning more money than when in India, and perhaps living somewhat better. Nor was improvement confined to physical endowment; external comfort has reacted on their feelings, and the common labourer is evidently less prone to falsehood in his social relations, at the close of his industrial residence, than he was at its commencement; it is not unusual to see men of this class trusting fully in their employers, and by them as fully trusted in return. Their good qualities appear to have been merely dormant.

The same can scarcely be said of what may be styled the more respectable class of Asiatics in this colony, viz. those who are doing well as shopkeepers or priests; they maintain the national character for falsehood in its utmost purity.

7. To return to statistics of 1853, of 2,040 who then arrived, the adults numbered 1,799, and were distributed according to the tables annexed, due care being taken to prevent as much as possible, not only separation between blood relations, but to respect as well the more distant ties of kindred and of even local acquaintanceship.

The register of estates shows that in January 1858, there remained (of 1,799) under indenture 1,184, of whom 623 had never quitted the estates to which they had been originally assigned. The register of redemptions shows, that up to the same date 90 had purchased their remaining periods of industrial residence. Finally, the register of returned immigrants gives 46 of this class as having embarked for Calcutta.

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These several amounts form a total, which, when deducted from the original 1,799 distributed, leaves a balance of 525 to be accounted for as missing or dead, during an industrial period of five years, terminating in 1858, or an annual per-centage of loss equivalent to nearly six on the number indentured in 1853. As in the case of the Chinese the per-centage of loss was principally confined to the years 1853 and 1854, previous to the institution of the quarterly returns. These results may be taken as pretty near the truth, the quarterly returns being unlikely to contain the names of non-existing parties, subject to an annual fee, and may compare not unfavourably with some of the average rates of mortality lately published in England, particularly when reference is made to the original selection of the coolies, who when embarked at Calcutta for the West Indies, are scarcely the men to be chosen by a recruiting officer, or by a railway contractor.

8. In the above per-centage, it would not be strictly correct to admit that the whole number now accounted for in the quarterly returns have died. These returns were only initiated in 1855, and from the number of unindentured coolies, who from time to time, during the last years, have been caught skulking about the country, or concealed on small mountain holdings, it is certain that a considerable number will yet appear to claim certificates of industrial residence, whose names have not been returned by any estate for several years. The per-centage, therefore, of the dead and missing will be gradually lessened as they come in; that of the former should also be decreased by those who have gone over to the Spanish Main; this number cannot be exactly ascertained, still, a sufficiency has been verified to make a perceptible impression on the per-centage.

9. The appearance of those children of coolie parents who have been either born in this colony, or introduced at an early age, has been often favourably noticed in these reports. They are singularly free from the maladies of childhood, and in point of symmetry and intelligence do not suffer by comparison with the offspring of other races, either African or European.

Chinese Immigrants.

10. The industrial residence of the Chinese ex "Australia" and "Clarendon," who arrived here in the spring of the year 1853, has terminated, and as that of the balance ex "Lady Flora Hastings" will expire this month, it may be assumed that sufficient experience has been acquired of the manners and habits of this class of labourers to allow of tolerably safe conclusions being drawn, regarding their value in an agricultural point of view, and the extent to which they are likely to amalgamate usefully with other classes of their own status.

11. When the Chinese immigrants were first distributed in 1853, I requested in writing, after the lapse of one month, opinions from several of their employers as to what their expectations might be of their future usefulness as estates' labourers. The answers returned were generally favourable, and were afterwards published in the Blue Book for 1853.

The employers found them somewhat expensive at first and difficult to manage, but augured well of their future industry. During the first few months, however, various misunderstandings took place on the subject of work and wages, and these from want of competent interpreters took long to settle, and in some cases were only settled by removing the people.

But this was exceptional. The majority of employers, though for some time they complained of the Chinese being difficult to manage, gradually came to look upon them as a valuable class of labourers, and those who had succeeded with them from the first, preferred them to all others.

12. These last gentlemen were successful agriculturists, but there are others, perhaps, equally so, who maintained that the Chinese were insubordinate, too fond of working their own grounds when they should be otherwise employed, and apt to abscond without reasonable cause. But now that the Chinese have terminated their industrial residence, those who disliked them most as indentured servants are glad to secure their services as day labourers, and my own impression is that under masters qualified to manage them, they are the best agriculturists who have been hitherto imported, whether for neatness or endurance. They respect the laws, particularly that of contract, and when they thoroughly understand their agreement, and feel that the employer has their interest and happiness in view as well as his own, they behave remarkably well.

On arrival, though the majority are cunning, and dishonest to boot, they are superior to the Hindoo, and soon discard their thievish habits, on finding that the reward of honest industry is less precarious and materially preferable.

Many of them hold situations of high trust and responsibility upon estates, and the numbers who are intlependent, and conversant with the French and English languages, would inspire their newly arrived countrymen with hope, and dissipate that lowness of spirits which in their own case, coupled with abuse of opium, left so many unresisting victims to the climatic remittent fever.

13. By the table of distribution in the Appendix, it will be seen that of 665 Chinese now remaining from the original allotments, 310 had remained on the estates to which they were originally attached, while 255 had purchased their remaining periods of industrial residence, and about 100 were unattached, from reasons given in the annual report for 1857.

Their value in the cane field has been too frequently dwelt upon in former reports to require further illustration at present; it fully justifies the requisition made by the Council

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of Government on the 1st instant, for the introduction of as many Chinese as may be shipped for 20,000 *l.* sterling.

This request is rendered the more timely by the peculiar present circumstances of both India and China, inasmuch as from the former the greatest difficulty exists in procuring immigrant labour on the one hand, while on the other the capture of Canton and consequent subversion of the mandarin influence will probably admit of multitudes, both male and female, emigrating, whose freedom of exit was formerly fettered.

14. The Canton coast is a sugar-growing country, and its inhabitants have been officially reported, on the best authority, by Sir Frederick Rogers, in his letter of 7th January 1853, to be strong, thrifty, intelligent, and industrious, and of all Chinamen the best adapted for labour in the West Indies. The wages near Canton are two dollars per month, with rice, and the people would certainly be content to emigrate for five dollars and rice, or seven dollars without allowances.

During the first six months of 1852, 17,000 labourers migrated from Canton. Of course the facilities at the present moment would be greater, from the circumstances of the district and the abundance of shipping from Hong Kong, and it appears that the labourers of the Siege Train under fire were receiving the same customary seven dollars. We find it also reported from personal experience that one dhangah (the best quality of Indian coolie), is equal to two Bengalees in labouring capacity, and one Chinaman to two dhangahs.

Admitting this statement to be exaggerated, it still implies the superiority of the Chinese as labourers, and when coupled with a fact of paramount importance to the proprietary body, namely, economy of introduction, the advantage will be found undoubtedly to be in favour of Chinese immigration.

The cost of introduction of an Indian immigrant with return passage and collateral expenses cannot be taken at less than 30 *l.* sterling, and it may occasionally be more when freight rises, as at the present moment, to 14 *l.* sterling per head, and this for a man who does little work during the first year, while the Chinese labourer, efficient from the commencement, and requiring no return passage, may be landed here for 17 *l.* sterling; in fact, Mr. White's letter from Hong Kong to Governor Barkly, dated 19th July 1851, states distinctly that the system once regulated, the expense of introducing Chinese would probably average not more than 15 *l.* per head.

15. The information already detailed by the Board of Emigration, and published in the Blue Book for 1853, is ample for the guidance of any parties who may hereafter be charged with the selection and embarkation of Chinese immigrants for this Colony. The average passage of those ships which have imported Chinese immigrants into this Colony has been hitherto 100 days.

The only source of risk, but one easily guarded against, would be on the part of the native brokers substituting for agricultural labourers the vagrants who teem in the purlieus of Canton and other populous cities; these beggars, however sturdy, seldom resort to work except on compulsion. Perhaps the surest mode of preventing any unpleasant results of this kind, would be to send back, at the expense of the colony, five or six good men whose steadiness during the last five years has been followed by independence, and who are now anxious to return for a time to their own country to perform the ancestral rites, but mean to reside here ultimately. The personal influence of such men would be the most likely means of removing the suspicions now prevalent amongst the Chinese, which have been raised against emigration to the west, by reports of evil nature from Cuba and guano islands.

There is yet another consideration in favour of Chinese migration into this colony, namely, the freedom with which they amalgamate with the Creoles, and conform to their manners; nine or ten are either married already, or about to be so, and many more have embraced the external symbols of the different forms of Christianity prevailing here, and about three times as many the Church of Rome.

16. The immigration laws in force up to last month, irrespective of that regulating the Cape de Verde immigration (No. 5, 1857), were three in number, viz.:

1st. An Ordinance, dated 22d March 1853, for the better government of Chinese immigrants introduced at the public expense.

2d. An Ordinance, dated 24th November 1853,* to amend and consolidate the laws with regard to immigration.

3d. An Ordinance to encourage immigrants to enter into further terms of industrial residence, and to confirm certain agreements of service already entered into by immigrants.

The first, or Chinese Ordinance, as it has been usually termed, is deficient in several points, on which it is now unnecessary to enter, as they have been met by an Ordinance published this month, for the encouragement of emigration into Trinidad from China.

17. While the lapse of several years has rendered some of the clauses of this Ordinance unnecessary, it has, at the same time, shown that others are extremely difficult to enforce. In suggesting the following alterations, which are now under the consideration of the Honourable the Attorney General, for his opinion as to how far they might be embodied in the amended Ordinance, I feel much diffidence; for, however palpable may be the objections to some of the clauses as they now stand, the proposed changes may involve unforeseen inconvenience.

TRINIDAD.

18. Proposed modifications in the existing Ordinance of No. 24, 1854:*

* *Vide* Papers presented Aug. 1857, p. 458.

1st. That during the absence on duty of the Agent General of Immigrants from the town of Port of Spain, the senior clerk for the time being should be authorised as sub-agent to sign all certificates and indentures requiring immediate signature.

2d. That the contracts entered into with Chinese should be in all points assimilated to those of the Indian immigrants, so as to admit, among other things, of those Chinese immigrants who have terminated their industrial residence receiving bounty for fresh engagements.

3d. To erase the 19th clause of Ordinance No. 24, 1854, as being no longer required.

4th. To modify the 21st and 22d clauses, so as to allow of its spirit being carried out as regards the immigrant in the matter of giving notice, or purchasing time. The immigrant cannot give the Agent General notice in town, without leaving the estate on which he is indented, and the manager of the estate being aware of the coolie's intention, will generally prevent his leaving for that purpose.

5th. To alter so much of the 27th clause as relates to the immigrant, after ten years' residence, paying into the treasury the sum of 7 *l.* 5 *s.* 10 *d.* sterling. The Immigration Committee have long decided not to act upon it, and the existence of the clause is alleged as one reason why it is so difficult to procure coolies for the colony.

6th. In the 28th clause to make some provision for invalids.

7th. To alter the 32d or indorsation clause. As it stands at present, its working gives an amount of labour to the immigration officer not compensated by any resulting advantage. By this clause, the indentured immigrant is allowed by law to lose six days in each year, but if any greater number be lost, they may, at the request of the employer, be indorsed on his contract, and he is then bound to work an equal number of days before his indenture be deemed to be completed. The difficulty here, is not the mere indorsation, but to know when it has terminated, or is likely to terminate. When an indenture has been indorsed for, say, 30 days, the probability is, that three, or even six months elapse before these lost days have been worked out, and the payment of the fee due on the renewal of the indenture is proportionately retarded; besides continued and unpleasant discussion between the immigrant and his master, as to the exact amount of work repaid; add to this, inquiries from other planters, who wish to employ the coolie on expiry of his existing contract, and these inquiries have all to be answered. The same difficulties recur at the termination of the 4th and 5th year's contract, so that an idle coolie runs a chance of never terminating his industrial residence.

The method which appears to me the best calculated to remedy this state of things, and act as a spur to the idle, while it would prove an encouragement to the industrious, is to increase the number of days which the coolie might lose, without being obliged to return them, from six days to twenty, and permit the man who had not exceeded that number, either to select another master, or to purchase the balance of his time at the close of his third year. When, however, the loss of time was in excess of 20 days annually, to consider in such cases the indenture as extended for the remainder of the period of industrial residence, and then at the close of the 5th year to allow the immigrant at his own option, either to pay back the lost time to his employer, in kind or in money, at a fixed rate, no money payments to be allowed where the lost time had been spent in gaol under a magistrate's conviction. I think that an arrangement of this nature would benefit the coolie, increasing his steadiness, and consequently his wealth, whilst it would effectually discourage any underhand practices among employers to influence their neighbour's men.

To ensure its working properly, each immigrant should be furnished with a labour book, in which, on pay-day, should be entered each day he had worked, and the rate earned, and the total number of days, in writing, signed by the book-keeper; this would prevent disputes regarding the amount of time lost; and in it also, the immigrant desirous of giving notice to lease or purchase time, could have the same entered by the nearest magistrate, or public officer, so as certainly to meet his employer's eye, and terminate those unpleasant cases in which the immigrant asserts he has given due notice, and is contradicted by the employer.

The labour book would, in this last case, subserve an important point, it would preclude the necessity of the immigrant leaving distant estates to wait on the Agent General, to give notice of intention to leave, or to purchase remaining time, a proceeding in which much time is lost, valuable alike to employer and employed.

8th. All free immigrants to registrar once a year at the nearest police station, whence the lists could be transmitted to this office for verification.

9th. For "term of industrial residence," in the 39th clause, read "term of indenture," so as to include those coolies who have finished their third and fourth years.

10th. Fortieth clause. Under this clause, parties have the power of prosecuting those who employ coolies indentured to other persons, but it has been found so difficult to obtain conviction, that actions are rarely entered even in aggravated cases. By substituting for the words "under indenture to any other person," "without authority from the Agent General," the practice of employing another man's indentured servant would be entirely checked.

11th. The

11th. The 46th clause, while it enables the masters, free of expense, to proceed against the indentured servant "for breach of his contract, or any violation or neglect of duty," limits the proceedings of the indentured servant against his master to the recovery of wages, or the recovery of any penalty under this Ordinance.

I should recommend this to be established on behalf of the indentured servant to any proceeding he might bring on account of ill-usage, either by himself personally or through the Agent General of Immigrants, or any duly constituted police authority.

This would give means of immediate redress in case of real grievances, and quash those frivolous complaints, which sometimes bring coolies from a distance to the Immigration Office.

It would establish a sufficient protectorate without any immediate increase of the staff.

12th. A prohibition to employers on any account whatever to cancel indentures on receiving certain payments from the labourer, without the previous sanction of the Agent General of Immigrants. The setransactions, besides being illegal, are open to collusions which may interfere with the welfare of the immigrant and the authority of this office.

13th. There is yet another point of importance to the immigrant, which is not directly provided for in the Ordinances regulating the mutual relations of employer and employed. Owing to peculiarities in the cane cultivation of this Colony, instances occur in the months of October and November, particularly on well-conducted properties, where the growing crops are so clean and well advanced that the labourer is not required to turn out to his daily work. Although these cases may not be numerous, they do occur from time to time, and it would seem but fair, that, as the labourer may, at his employer's request, be bound to repay every day of illegal absence from work, so also he might, by parity of argument, recover, on proper application, the value of every day on which his employer either neglects or refuses to employ him.

19. Before dismissing the subjects embraced by those two Ordinances, I would beg his Excellency's attention to the clauses which refer to the repayment of advances made to immigrants before embarking. It is now upwards of five years since I had the honour to report on what appeared to me the impolicy of saddling a labourer with a heavy debt at the commencement of a long apprenticeship in a distant land; a debt and an apprenticeship whose terminations are alike too often anticipated by death, as in the case of many of the Chinese arrived in 1853. Subsequent events have not invalidated the opinion then expressed; and although some of the immigrants repaid their advances without demur, the exaction of the balance from the majority was a fruitful source of dissension, and constantly recurring heartburn, breaking out not unfrequently in open violence, and establishing such unpleasant feelings, that some of those gentlemen who had most experience in the matter, affirm that they would not again attempt, on any consideration, to enforce a debt of this nature. I find, also, that Mr. Interpreter Parkes, whose experience of Chinese character entitles his evidence to weight, deprecates such advances altogether, or limits them to the lowest scale, as they find their way generally into the pocket of the crimp, and leave but an unpleasant reminiscence to his dupe. One thing, moreover, is clear, that the higher the amount, the more difficult will be its recovery. If an advance is to be made in any other shape than that of free gift to the labourer embarking, I would suggest the propriety of its being repaid in either of the following modes; first, to fall on the employer in the shape of an increased yearly stamp on the indentures, and this proposal would probably be received without objection by the parties who, last year, agreed to double the indenture fee, when the introduction of labour was at stake, or, in the second place, it might be made optional to the immigrant either to pay down his advance previous to receiving his industrial certificate, or to serve another year under indenture, the stamp duty on the same being paid as reimbursement for the advance into the immigration fund.

20. As regards any advance to the Indian immigrants, in the shape of a debt to be repaid in this Colony from the prospective results of their labour, the following opinion of Mr. Rogers, their Protector in Calcutta, is entitled to great weight; it is an extract from his letter, dated 6th February 1852, to the Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal: "As an abstract question, there can be no doubt of the great boon the proposed advances might be to the often helpless members of families left behind by emigrants.

"But seeing that the payments would have to be made through proverbially dishonest recruiters or amlats, to thousands of unknown people spread over all parts of the country, and that no effectual check could be interposed to prevent imposition, I doubt if, practically, the plan would prove beneficial, as there could not be any certainty whatever of the amounts of the loans reaching the hands of those for whom they were intended; besides this, it might operate as an inducement to unprincipled zemindars to coerce their ryots to emigrate, in order that they might have the benefit of the bounty, for not improbably false demands. The emigrants themselves, under such circumstances, would become discontented in the Colonies at having to repay amounts out of their first earnings, which many of them, with good reason, believed had neither reached nor benefited their families.

"Another reason which renders the adoption of the proposal objectionable is, that the acceptance of the loan might materially affect the entire freedom natives now enjoy, and which it seems so desirable should be continued to them, of declining to emigrate at any time previous to, or even after actual embarkation for that purpose."

TRINIDAD.

21. Mr. James White writes thus, in his Despatch to Governor Barkly, dated Calcutta, 28th April 1857: "Emigration from this quarter cannot, however, be placed on a firm and satisfactory footing, until emigrants return to diffuse a knowledge of the country, and to act as recruiting agents for the collection of fresh emigrants; it is therefore very desirable that a sufficient number of men of good character and honest purpose should be encouraged to return, in order to carry out this object.

"These men would probably select emigrants from among their relatives and associates; and these emigrants having their minds imbued with a favourable opinion of their future masters, of the country to which they were bound, would be worth double the number promiscuously selected. Under ordinary circumstances, numbers may always be obtained from out the superabundant population of Bengal; but I think nothing would conduce so much to improve the quality of the emigrants as the feeling of security that would be engendered by the consciousness that they were going out, not as utter strangers, but with the assurance of meeting friends. When this system has once fairly been established, emigration to the West Indies will be as independent and self-supporting as the emigration to the Mauritius. My protracted stay in Calcutta has given me further opportunities of inquiry as to the probability of obtaining a large number of labourers from this quarter. I am satisfied that any given number may be obtained, if proper steps be taken, and that the maximum cost, either as remuneration or as a bounty to the emigrants themselves, ought not to exceed four rupees for every adult. If the West India emigration be carried on steadily and systematically, there can be no doubt as to a favourable issue."

22. The last Ordinance under consideration is No. 7, 1855.* Its action is limited by the first clause to those immigrants who have arrived in Trinidad previously to the 1st day of January 1854, consequently it must be altered previous to the 1st of January 1859, so as to extend the benefit of its provisions to all who may then or at any future time terminate their industrial residence.

* *Vide* Papers presented Aug. 1857, p. 464.

It would be desirable also to include among the future recipients of premium for voluntary contracts, the Chinese, now free by expiry of their industrial residence, and to extend the time of their contract to two or more years when required.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Hon. Thomas F. Johnston,
Colonial Secretary.

BENARES.

ESTATES.	Distribution.	Remaining.	Indented on other Estates.	Purchased Time.	Returned to Calcutta.	Absconded.	Deaths.
Mount Pleasant	12	3	–	–	–	–	–
Valsayn	11	7	–	–	–	–	–
Orange Grove	11	4	–	–	–	–	–
Curepe	11	2	–	–	–	–	–
Bonne Aventure	11	4	–	–	–	–	–
Caraccas	10	12	–	–	–	–	–
Union Hall	10	6	–	–	–	–	–
Brechin Castle	10	–	–	–	–	–	–
Concord (Pantin)	10	5	–	–	–	–	–
Perseverance (Couva)	13	7	–	–	–	–	–
La Fortunée	12	2	–	–	–	–	–
Cupar Grange	11	6	–	–	–	–	–
Bon Accord	12	–	–	–	–	–	–
L'Envieuse	11	9	–	–	–	–	–
Beauséjour (Cedros)	12	–	–	–	–	–	–
Broomage	13	13	–	–	–	–	–
Matilda	10	10	–	–	–	–	–
Cedar Grove	12	–	–	–	–	–	–
Friendship (Begg)	10	4	–	–	–	–	–
St. John (Cedros)	12	–	–	–	–	–	–
	224	94	54	7	1	3	3

WILLIAM JARDINE.

ESTATES.	Distribution.	Remaining.	Indented on other Estates.	Purchased Time.	Returned to Calcutta.	Absconded.	Deaths.
Mount Pleasant	28	18	–	–	–	–	–
Point D'Or	16	–	–	–	–	–	–
St. Augustine	23	–	–	–	–	–	–
Glenroy Plain	25	8	–	–	–	–	–
Plain Palais	20	–	–	–	–	–	–
Camden	22	9	–	–	–	–	–
Beaulieu	21	10	–	–	–	–	–
Cedar Hill (Pta. Pierre)	19	19	–	–	–	–	–
Perseverance (Begg)	22	6	–	–	–	–	–
Dinsley	24	10	–	–	–	–	–
Spring	22	2	–	–	–	–	–
Monrepos	15	5	–	–	–	–	–
Craiguish	9	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	266	87	83	25	17	9	3

HARKAWAY.

ESTATES.	Distribution.	Remaining.	Indented on other Estates.	Purchased Time.	Returned to Calcutta.	Absconded.	Deaths.
Orange Grove	20	9	–	–	–	–	–
St. François	20	15	–	–	–	–	–
Barataria	20	1	–	–	–	–	–
Matilda	20	20	–	–	–	–	–
Cupar Grange	20	10	–	–	–	–	–
Phœnix Park	15	9	–	–	–	–	–
Curepe	15	6	–	–	–	–	–
Aranjuez	25	16	–	–	–	–	–
Picton	15	6	–	–	–	–	–
Williamsville	20	–	–	–	–	–	–
Lochmaber	20	15	–	–	–	–	–
Hermitage (Gnod)	15	4	–	–	–	–	–
Wellington	15	1	–	–	–	–	–
Susannah (Spiers)	15	12	–	–	–	–	–
St. Rita	15	7	–	–	–	–	–
Taronda	12	1	–	–	–	–	–
Waterloo (Cadett)	15	1	–	–	–	–	–
Rivulet	14	7	–	–	–	–	–
Perseverance (Begg)	12	5	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	323	145	56	14	7	2	4

TRINIDAD.

MAIDSTONE.

ESTATES.	Distribution.	Remaining.	Indented on other Estates.	Purchased Time.	Returned to Calcutta.	Absconded.	Deaths.
Dinsley	21	8	–	–	–	–	–
Woodford Dale	22	11	–	–	–	–	–
Friendship	20	1	–	–	–	–	–
Williamsville	20	–	–	–	–	–	–
Prospect	23	1	–	–	–	–	–
Milton	21	6	–	–	–	–	–
St. Magdelaine	20	10	–	–	–	–	–
Bronte	20	–	–	–	–	–	–
Providence	19	–	–	–	–	–	–
Endeavour	15	5	–	–	–	–	–
Esperanza	21	–	–	–	–	–	–
Waterloo (Giuseppi)	19	11	–	–	–	–	–
Henry's	17	–	–	–	–	–	–
Petersfield	19	3	–	–	–	–	–
Harmony Hall	10	1	–	–	–	–	–
Felicity	39	25	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	326	82	113	30	11	4	1

MALLARD.

ESTATES.	Distribution.	Remaining.	Indented on other Estates.	Purchased Time.	Returned to Calcutta.	Absconded.	Deaths.
Otaheite	22	1	–	–	–	–	–
Perseverance (Spires)	18	12	–	–	–	–	–
Esperanza	21	8	–	–	–	–	–
Lochmaber	19	9	–	–	–	–	–
Perseverance (Guapo)	20	19	–	–	–	–	–
Friendship (Begg)	28	5	–	–	–	–	–
Felicity	24	21	–	–	–	–	–
Endeavour	20	–	–	–	–	–	–
Bonne Aventure	22	9	–	–	–	–	–
Beauséjour (Cedros)	23	11	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	217	85	75	4	3	1	5

ELIZA STEWART.

ESTATES.	Distribution.	Remaining.	Indented on other Estates.	Purchased Time.	Returned to Calcutta.	Absconded.	Deaths.
St. François	34	33	–	–	1	–	–
Valsayn	21	18	–	–	–	–	–
Providence	16	7	–	–	–	–	–
Curepe	16	3	–	–	–	–	–
Concord	17	4	–	–	–	–	–
La Romaine	18	–	–	–	–	–	–
Orange Grove	27	4	–	–	–	–	–
Williamsville	40	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	189	69	66	9	5	3	1

BANK OF ENGLAND.

ESTATES.	Distribution.	Remaining.	Indented on other Estates.	Purchased Time.	Returned to Calcutta.	Absconded.	Deaths.
Perseverance (Couva)	17	1	–	–	–	–	–
Moka	14	10	–	–	–	–	–
Belle Vue	17	–	–	–	–	–	–
Carlisle	18	–	–	–	–	–	–
Petersfield	15	13	–	–	–	–	–
Endeavour	18	9	–	–	–	–	–
Gleroy	17	3	–	–	–	–	–
St. Marguerite	14	9	–	–	–	–	–
Union Hall	16	15	–	–	–	–	–
Diamond (Cockerton)	23	–	–	–		–	–
Prospect	21	4	–	–	–	–	–
Macoya	14	3	–	–	–	–	–
Waterloo	15	15	–	–	–	–	–
Brechin Castle	19	3	–	–	–	–	–
St. François	16	16	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	254	101	74	1	2	–	2

CHINESE IMMIGRANTS.

ESTATE.	Number Distributed.			TOTAL.	Number Distributed.			TOTAL.	Number Distributed.			TOTAL.
	Australia.	Clarendon.	Lady Flora Hastings.		Australia.	Clarendon.	Lady Flora Hastings.		Australia.	Clarendon.	Lady Flora Hastings.	
*Orange Grove	25	–	–	25	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Williamsville	23	–	–	23	8	–	–	8	1	–	–	1
Jordan Hill	33	–	–	33	8	–	–	8	6	–	–	6
Craignish	23	–	–	23	11	–	–	11	1	–	–	1
Friendship	23	–	–	23	10	–	–	10	–	–	–	–
*Clydesdale Cottage	16	–	–	16	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
*Barataria	24	20	–	44	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Curepe	16	–	15	31	7	–	4	11	5	–	1	6
Comden	25	–	–	25	4	–	–	4	13	–	–	13
Concord (Dr. Philip)	17	–	–	17	14	–	4	18	13	–	8	21
La Romaine	25	–	–	25	4	–	–	4	11	–	–	11
Lower Caroni	17	–	–	17	7	7	–	14	10	–	–	10
Upper Caroni	34	–	–	34	12	–	–	12	5	–	–	5
St. John (Cedros)	25	–	–	25	16	–	–	16	7	–	5	12
St. Marie	31	–	–	31	8	–	–	8	7	–	–	7
Broomage	24	–	–	24	6	–	–	6	12	–	–	12
Garth	23	–	–	23	–	–	–	–	5	–	–	5
Macoya	19	–	–	19	2	–	–	2	15	–	–	15
Endeavour	–	20	–	20	–	4	–	4	–	11	–	11
*Exchange	–	25	–	25	6	4	–	10	3	10	–	13
River	–	20	–	20	–	8	–	8	–	9	–	9
Dinsley	–	25	–	25	–	4	–	4	–	16	–	16
*Union Hall	–	20	–	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Plain Palace	–	25	–	25	–	2	–	2	–	11	–	11
*Fairfield	–	25	–	25	–	5	–	5	–	–	–	–
*Bonaccord	–	25	–	25	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Otaheite	–	15	10	25	–	9	–	9	–	3	6	9
Corinth	–	19	–	19	–	11	5	16	–	17	7	24
*St. François	–	–	50	50	–	–	2	2	–	–	2	2
*Perseverance	–	–	20	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Lesefforts	–	10	16	26	–	2	13	15	3	4	1	8
Edinburgh	–	–	40	40	–	–	14	14	–	–	11	11
*Aupero	–	–	15	15	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–
Birkenhead	–	–	15	15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Buen Intento	–	–	10	10	8	–	1	9	4	–	6	10
*Matilda	–	–	10	10	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–
Canaan	–	–	15	15	–	–	4	4	–	–	–	–
Golconda	–	–	20	20	–	3	3	6	–	8	11	19
*Glenroy	–	–	15	15	–	–	2	2	–	–	–	–
*Belle Vue	–	–	12	12	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–
Esperanza	–	–	15	15	–	–	4	4	–	–	3	3
Bonne Aventure	–	–	15	15	–	–	5	5	–	–	6	6
Lochmaben	–	–	–	–	–	5	–	5	–	9	–	9
La Resource	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	8	–	8
Felicity	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	2	–	–	9	9
Le Ver	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
TOTAL	423	249	293	965	131	58	66	255	121	106	83	310

TOTAL Number unindented - - - - - - 100.

The preceding tables are intended to show to a certain extent the progressive numerical history of those coolies who arrived here in 1853, from the date of their introduction up to the termination of their industrial residence.

The columns represent, first, the numbers in the different lots, according to their original distribution on the estates whose names are attached.

Secondly. The numbers remaining respectively on the same estate towards the close of the five years of industrial residence.

Thirdly. Those who at subsequent periods of their industrial residence left the estates on which they were first settled, and became indentured on estates other than those originally selected.

Fourthly. Those who purchased at any time their remaining periods of industrial residence.

Fifthly. Those of the latter who have returned to Calcutta.

Sixthly and Seventhly. Those who may have absconded or died during the last two years of their industrial residence, as indicated by the quarterly returns.

These tables are necessarily very imperfect, particularly under the captions, absconded, and dead, because during the years 1853 and 1854, the latter comprising the ravages of cholera, the immigrants were free to change their domicile at the end of each year, without giving any notice, and in 1855 the system of quarterly returns, although instituted, was very imperfect.

During 1856 and 1857 the returns have been made more carefully, and may consequently be more depended on. From them the present tables have been chiefly drawn up, and, as in the case of the Chinese, they indicate that the amount of dead or missing during the last two years forms but a trifling per-centage on the number surviving. The reported deaths, for instance, being 19 in two years on 1,203 indentured = 0·8 per cent.

In the tables which relate to Chinese immigrants the ships "Australia," "Clarendon," and "Lady Flora Hastings," are indicated by their initial letters. The column headed unindented contains the number of those who from various causes, such as habits of absconding, idleness, or abuse of opium, could find no master to indent them during the last year. The estates marked with an asterisk had the immigrants removed from them, sometimes at their own request, and sometimes at their employer's. In not a few cases the immigrants, after purchasing their remaining periods of industrial residence, returned to their original employers.

The mortality among the Chinese during the year 1857 appears from the quarterly returns to have been confined to the public hospitals; it amounted to 10 in 675 = 1·4.

(signed) *Henry Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

— No. 37. —

(No. 136.)

No. 37.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M.P.
6 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

Trinidad, 6 October 1858.
(Received, 1 November 1858.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 72, 29 November 1858, p. 412).

1. WITH reference to your Despatch, No. 30*, of the 26th August, in which you express approval of the appointment, under certain conditions, of Mr. Johnston, the Colonial Secretary, and Mr. T. Warner, the Registrar of the Courts, as Agents in India, for emigration to this Colony, I have the honour to inform you that the former gentleman has now reported to me that he will not be prepared to leave the island before the first packet in November, by which time he will have brought up all the arrears of business in his office, so as to enable me to place its duties with confidence in other hands. Under these circumstances, I would take the liberty of suggesting that Mr. Warner might be instructed to proceed to Calcutta in the first instance, and await there the arrival of Mr. Johnston, for whom he would prepare the ground, and then proceed or return to his destination at Madras; unless, indeed, his departure from England should have been delayed so long as to shorten very materially the interval estimated to elapse between his arrival in India, and that of Mr. Johnston, in which case it would scarcely be worth while to make such an arrangement.

* Page 401.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

— No. 38. —

(No. 137.)

No. 38.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P.
7 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

Trinidad, 7 October 1858.
(Received, 1 November 1858.)

Sir,

IN accordance with a resolution of Council, adopted at its meeting on the 1st instant, a copy of which I enclose, I have the honour to convey to you the thanks of that body for the courteous and ready manner in which you have acceded to the arrangements proposed to be made with reference to the selection of Emigration Agents for this Colony in India, as signified to me in your Despatch, No. 30,* of the 26th August.

Enclosure.

* Page 401.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Encl. in No. 38.

Enclosure in No. 38.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council of 1 October 1858.

Resolved,—THAT his Excellency the Governor be requested to convey to the Right Honourable Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, in such terms as his Excellency shall think fit, the sense which this Honourable Board entertains of the readiness and courtesy with which Her Majesty's Secretary of State has acceded to the wishes of this Honourable Board on the subject of the appointments to the East Indian immigration agencies.

(A true extract.)
(signed) *Charles F. Cadiz*,
Acting Clerk of Council.

— No. 39. —

(No. 145.)

No. 39.
Governor Keate to Right. Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P.
21 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

Trinidad, 21 October 1858.
(Received, 20 November 1858.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 95, 17 January 59, p. 416.)

† Page 401.

1. WITH reference to your Despatch, No. 36,† of the 2d September, and its enclosures, relating to the amount of savings paid to the return coolies from Trinidad to Calcutta by the "Eveline," I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Agent General of Immigrants on the subject, in which he shows in what manner the mistake adverted to arose, and suggests the means of preventing like errors in future, which I shall direct to be put in practice.

Enclosure.

2. I was in hopes that the arrangements made, by which the Agent in India was to be instructed to make good, and charge this Colony with any loss sustained by the coolies on the transmission of their money, would have obviated every inconvenience of this kind. The non-arrival of the money in due time at Calcutta is in no way attributable to any department in this Colony, as the Commissariat order for the amount was despatched by mail only two days after the sailing of the "Eveline;" and as that vessel appears to have had a longer voyage than usual, there must have been ample time for the transmission in the interval of the requisite orders concerning it to the authorities in India.

3. Dr. Mitchell takes this opportunity of requesting that information may be supplied to him with regard to the savings of one Inbohul, No. 8264, on the printed

printed roll, who is therein marked dead; and of pointing out the desirableness of the arrival in India of return coolie ships being notified as early as possible to the authorities here, with details of their voyages, both for the sake of the friends of passengers remaining in the Colony, and for the light they may throw upon the causes of mortality occurring in vessels bringing immigrants from India.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Enclosure in No. 39.

Sir, Immigration Office, 12 October 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I have carefully perused Despatch No. 44, with its several enclosures, as received by last mail, regarding the discrepancy between the amount of the bill remitting the money lodged here by return immigrants per "Eveline," from Trinidad to Calcutta, and the sum of their respective deposits in the Colonial Treasury, as entered in the descriptive roll transmitted by the same packet of 10th October 1857; as also Mr. Reddie's letter, dated Calcutta, 5th March 1858, giving accounts of the aggravated distress then experienced by the immigrants, owing to the delay which took place at Calcutta in returning their money, a delay which, it is stated, might seriously compromise the interests of this colony.

1. The bill remitted was for an amount of 5,389 *l.* 5 *s.* 5 *d.*, while the printed descriptive roll, now transmitted to this Colony, and signed by Mr. Eales, Officiating Immigration Agent, as showing the money actually paid to the immigrants in Calcutta, gives a total of 5,412 *l.* 16 *s.* 1 *d.*, leaving 23 *l.* 10 *s.* 8 *d.* sterling to be accounted for. This can be nearly done by a reference to the following extract from my report on the sailing of the ship "Eveline," dated 7th October 1857, to which report a copy of the desciptive roll was attached.

"In closing this report, I have the honour to add that the bill drawn in favour of the East India Company does not include the full amount of money deposited in the Treasury for transmission to Calcutta, on account of the return immigrants per "Eveline."

"When the coolies deposited their money, they received deposit receipts from the Treasury, without any corresponding entry being made under their respective names or numbers in any book set apart for the purpose, as the pressure of business did not allow of such a step being taken. The receipts they got from the Treasury were brought to this office, where they were entered, under the name and distinguishing number of each immigrant returning per "Eveline." After this took place, one man named Shibram lost his receipt for 21 *l.* 1*s.* 8 *d.* sterling, consequently as the bill in favour of the East India Company was drawn only to the amount of receipts returned to the Treasury, Shibram's money was not transmitted, and as it is desirable that no coolie should experience unnecessary delay in receiving the amount of his earnings on reaching Calcutta, and it being too late to alter the bill, by this packet, I have to beg that Mr. Caird be instructed to pay the sum of 21 *l.* 1*s.* 8 *d.* sterling, set opposite the name of Shibram, No. 6809, in the accompanying corrected list, and charge the same to this Colony."

"In future, when coolies deposit money in the Treasury for any purpose whatever, if their names be entered along with their number and ship's name, as entered on their certificates, or as procurable at this office, similar difficulties will not recur."

2. Some time after the above was written, I ascertained that another immigrant, named Narrainen, No. 2571, a Madras coolie, whose name had also been entered on the original descriptive roll, had lost his deposit receipt for 2 *l.* at the same time that Shibram lost his; but I did not then deem it necessary to make a further report on the subject, as, on the 21st July 1857, I had recommended, with the unanimous consent of the Immigration Committee, that in future, to obviate the inconveniences which had arisen to the immigrants per "Arabia," in the present year, "any loss sustained by the coolies on the transmission of their money to India, should be made good to them on their arrival in Calcutta," a recommendation which met the approval of His Excellency the Governor here and Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners in London.

3. The amount then of Shibram's deposit of 21 *l.* 1 *s.* 8 *d.* sterling, and that of Narainer's of 2 *l.* sterling, equal together to 23 *l.* 1 *s.* 8 *d.* sterling, should, when added to the bill for 5,389 *l.* 5 *s.* 5 *d.*, have amounted to a total of 5,412 *l.* 7 *s.* 1 *d.* sterling, being the exact amount deposited here by the immigrants, and required to meet their claims in Calcutta.

4. The printed list or descriptive roll, signed by Mr. Eales, Acting Agent General, and enclosed in Despatch No. 44, does not coincide entirely with the original in this office, and there are no means of ascertaining whether the clerical differences to be noted existed in the roll sent in to the Government or crept into some ulterior transcript, as the roll in question was forwarded hence, without, as it appears, any copy of the same having been retained which might now admit of comparison with the original in this office.

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The clerical differences occur under the following entries:

Number.	———	Office Roll. £. s. d.	Printed Roll. £. s. d.
33	Dookhee - - - -	58 2 –	58 1 –
401	Nourunkan - - -	31 5 –	36 15 –
2053	Doonia - - - -	5 12 6	5 12 9
6229	Issur - - - - -	21 9 2	21 8 8
6689	Bundhoo - - - -	8 19 2	8 19 3
7397	Lillah - - - -	27 1 8	27 11 8
2572	Ungamah - - - -	15 8 4	15 8 5
	£.	167 17 10	173 16 9

Thus creating a difference in favour of the printed roll over the original of 5*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*

On further examination of the printed roll, the discrepancy noted by Sir Frederic Rogers in his letter to Mr. Merivale of 26th August 1858, between the sum of 5,417 *l* 15 *s.* 9*d.* received by Mr. Eales from the Indian Government, and the sum of 5,412 *l.* 16 *s.* 1*d.* appearing on his printed list, explains itself within a trifle.

By reference to the printed roll, it will be seen at page 4 that an error of 10*l.* short exists in the addition, viz., 4,098*l.* 4*s.* 5½*d.* instead of 4,108*l.* 4*s.* 5½*d*; and in page 5, an error in excess of 5*l.*, viz., 4,562*l.* 1*s.* 4½*d.* instead of 4,557*l.* 1*s.* 4½*d.*, equal in all to a deficiency of 5*l.*, which, when added to the total in the printed roll of 5,412*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*, will give 5,417*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*, or within 4*d.* of the sum received by Mr. Eales to satisfy the coolie claims.

5. With regard to the distress prevalent amongst the coolies after their arrival in Calcutta, from the delay that intervened in paying their money between their arrival in the end of February and the 27th March, when the warrant was issued to the Sub-treasurer of Bengal to advance the requisite amount, I have to state that the Immigration Committee of this Colony fully acquiesce in the sentiments of commiseration expressed by Mr. Reddie, the Protector of Immigrants, for their sufferings—sufferings not confined to the sickening influence of hope deferred, but real and more tangible, for 30 (thirty) men, as reported by Mr. Caird in his letter to the Emigration Commissioners of date 25th March 1858, who had just landed full of life and hope from a protracted voyage, died whilst waiting for their money.

The Committee deeply regret that the prudent precautions taken by his Excellency Mr. Keate to ensure the safe and rapid transmission of the money should have proved unavailing in the instance of the "Eveline."

The descriptive roll of the monies deposited and the bill already mentioned were dispatched by the mail which left this island two days after the sailing of the "Eveline," and it was hoped that, as in the case of the "Arabia," the money of the coolies would have reached Calcutta long before the coolies themselves were in a position to claim their respective amounts, and with this further advantage over the passengers per "Arabia," that each person's savings should have been handed over to him in Calcutta free of all deductions whatever or difference of exchange, &c.

6. The bills of exchange mentioned by Mr. Reddie in the second paragraph of his letter, dated 5th March 1858, as having been issued to the coolies from the Trinidad Treasury, on depositing their earnings, were simply deposit receipts, which were taken from them again by me before the ship sailed, and returned to the Treasury on the special request of that department.

They were of no value to the coolie whatever, as they were neither numbered nor otherwise entered in the Treasury in a manner that might admit of their amount being verified by the holder in case of his paper being lost. In any future payments of this nature it will prevent misunderstanding if the Treasury furnish the descriptive roll of the monies received; each coolie possesses his distinguishing number and certificate, and where there exists any doubt it may be at once removed by application to the Immigration Office, which is now under the same roof as the Treasury.

In Mr. Eales' printed roll Juhobul (No. 8264) is marked dead. His father has applied to me to know what was done with his son's money, 48 dollars in specie, and 1 *l.* 13 *s.* 9*d.* sterling deposit. Great uneasiness exists here among the coolies with regard to their friends and relations who sailed by the "Eveline," as no account has yet reached this department of the number who may have died on the passage, nor indeed any details of the voyage whatever.

These details are at the present juncture of deep importance to the coolie passenger trade, as by careful comparison with statistics already recorded they may throw additional light on the causes of the heavy mortality which occurred in the transmission of emigrants from the

the East to the West Indies, during the seasons 1857 and 1858. On board the "Arabia," from Trinidad to Calcutta with return immigrants, in 1856 and 1857, the mortality was trifling, while on board the "Eveline," from Calcutta, whom she crossed at the same season, during a voyage of less than one half the duration, the deaths averaged one daily; again, in 1858, this same "Eveline," so unfortunate in 1857, returned with immigrants from Trinidad in 1857 and 1858, and is supposed to have reached Calcutta after a five months' voyage, with less loss than her people experienced immediately after being landed.

These statements, if duly supported, should be seriously considered by the newly appointed Indian Agents for this Colony, as likely to influence not only the precautions to be adopted by them in shipping immigrants, but to guide them in their selection of a suitable depôt.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Hon. T. F. Johnston,
Colonial Secretary.

— No. 40. —

(No. 161.)

No. 40.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P.
23 Nov. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

Trinidad, 23 November 1858.
(Received, 16 December 1858.)

Sir,

1. BEFORE replying to your Despatch (No. 46)* of the 30th September last, I submitted the copy of the letter enclosed in it from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, making suggestions for defining the duties of the several Emigration Agents in India, to the Standing Committee of Council of Immigration, who had expressed a wish to be allowed to consider it and advise upon it.

* Page 407.

2. I furnished Mr. Warner on his departure from the island with no formal instructions, both because I was uncertain at the time whether he would be permitted to take up his appointment as Emigration Agent for the Colony in Madras, and because I was under the impression, which has turned out to be correct, that he would not, under any circumstances, be called upon to take out of the hands of the present Agent the collection of emigrants during the present season. He was, however, supplied with a variety of information upon the general nature of his duties by myself and by the Agent General of Immigrants here, to the records of whose office he had full access.

3. The instructions of the local Government will be of more importance with reference to Calcutta than to Madras; I am engaged at present in preparing them, and your Despatch, to which I am replying, and its enclosure, enable me to do so without running the risk of clashing with those emanating from the Government at home. The instructions will be ready to be furnished to Mr. Johnston, who will shortly take his departure for Calcutta, and I shall forward a copy of them at the same time to Mr. Warner at Madras, and as a matter of course, Sir, to yourself.

4. The Committee of Council on Immigration have made no observations on the letter of the Emigration Commissioners, except upon points which affect the instructions to be issued by the local authorities; it is unnecessary therefore that I should allude to them here. The 13th paragraph of that letter in which the question of the supply of funds to the Emigration Agents is discussed, is the only one that seems to require any remarks from me. The Commissioners suggest that instead of transmitting funds as at present through their Board and the Indian Government, the Colonial Governments should be left to make their own arrangements for the transmission to India of the funds required by their respective Agents. So far as Trinidad is concerned, it would be almost impossible to carry out this suggestion in the exact manner proposed. There is no commercial intercourse whatever between it and the East Indies. The transmission of money therefore from the one to the other without the intervention of some third party, would, if feasible at all, occasion an expense which would

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enhance very considerably the annual outlay of the Colony for immigration purposes. The Board of Emigration Commissioners might easily be released from this service by substituting for them the Agent-General of Crown Colonies, and this would be a convenient arrangement, but the assistance hitherto given by the Indian Governments in advancing funds could hardly be dispensed with.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

— No. 41. —

No. 41.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P.
20 Dec. 1858.

(No. 167.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M. P.

Trinidad, 20 December 1858.
(Received, 20 January 1859.)

Sir,

Enclosure.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you a copy of a letter of instructions which I have caused to be addressed to Mr. Johnson, on the occasion of his proceeding to his destination as Agent for Emigration for this Colony in Calcutta. These instructions are general and preliminary, and intended to be subsidiary to the rules which I understand by your Despatch, No. 46*, of the 30th September last, it is your intention to send out to the several Agents appointed for the West Indian Colonies, for the purpose of defining their duties, and fixing their relations towards the Imperial and the local Governments. I have forwarded a copy of this letter to Mr. Warner at Madras, and desired him to conform himself to its directions, so far as they are applicable to his position there.

* Page 407.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert W. Keate.*

Encl. in No. 41.

Enclosure in No. 41.

Sir,

Trinidad, 20 December 1858.

1. As it is not proposed that the new arrangements consequent upon the appointment of separate Agents for Emigration in India should take effect before the 1st April next, you will, on your arrival at your destination, be enabled to ascertain the general nature of your duties before entering upon their active discharge.

2. In order to do so, you will of course put yourself immediately into communication with the present Agent; and, while abstaining from all interference with his acts, endeavour by working with him to make yourself acquainted with the practical details of the service.

3. Your duties, upon the full performance of which you are to enter on the 1st April, will, in the main, be similar to those of the present Agent; but your relation both to Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners in England and the Colony will be somewhat changed. This, as well as the mode in which you are to conduct your official correspondence with each, will be fixed by general rules to be laid down for your guidance by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

4. The principal point of difference will be that, subject to such rules, and to any instructions that you may receive from time to time from the Secretary of State, you will act under orders emanating directly from the local Government.

5. The rules to be laid down by the Secretary of State will define the mode in which the funds necessary for the discharge of your duties are to be supplied.

6. You will render quarterly accounts of your expenditure to this Government, and notify without delay the advances made to you from time to time in India, in order that their amount may be remitted to the Agent acting for the Colony in England in this respect.

7. As a general rule, you will conduct your expenditure in accordance with the instructions you will find to have been furnished from time to time to the present Agent, but much must necessarily be left to your discretion, at all events in the first instance, in this respect.

8. You will do your best to make such arrangements with the Agents of other Colonies as will obviate unnecessary competition and consequent expenditure in the collection of emigrants.

9. Several

9. Several of the coolies, now about to return to India, will be provided by the Agent General of Immigrants with certificates showing their fitness in his opinion to act as collectors of intending emigrants. You will therefore, at your discretion, employ so many of them as you may require, at fair rates of pay.

You will use your best efforts to secure the health of emigrating coolies, and especially you will take care that they are not sent on board ship in a condition unfitting them for a sea voyage, and for this purpose you will select a suitable depôt for their reception in as healthy a situation as possible.

11. You will, of course, pay strict attention to the Rules fixing the proportion of women to be sent in each ship, and take care that no persons below the specified age are shipped as adults, and, as far as possible, you will exclude all aged and infirm persons.

12. The chartering of ships for the transport of coolies, and their management when so employed, will be conducted in accordance with the rules laid down by the Secretary of State; but you will endeavour in every way, not inconsistent with them, to reduce the mortality on board such ships.

13. You will keep this Government constantly informed of all your proceedings, and favour it with any suggestions that may occur to you as calculated to improve its immigration system; and, in addition, you will make, once a year, a General Report, showing the result of your transactions during the past season, and the prospects of emigration for the next.

14. These instructions are entirely preliminary. They are not intended to fetter your judgment, and are liable to be modified by such as you may receive hereafter. The object with which they are furnished to you is to draw your attention to those points which seem more particularly to affect local consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Nath. Bushe,*
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

The Honourable Thomas F. Johnston,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 42. —

(No. 168.)

No. 42.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P.
21 Dec. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

Trinidad, 21 December 1858.
(Received, 20 January 1859.)

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to report to you the arrival of the ship "Roman Emperor," from Madras, after a voyage of 82 days, with the following immigrants:—196 men, 110 women, 31 boys, 34 girls, and 8 infants. The mortality on board during the passage has been extremely small, as will be seen by a reference to the Reports of the Agent General of Immigrants and of the Health Officer, copies of which are enclosed. There is a slight error in the latter report, in regard to the number of deaths.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 42.

Encl. 1, in No. 42.

Sir,

Immigration Office, 6 December 1858.

1. I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the ship "Roman Emperor" (Lamprell, master), arrived here on Saturday, the 4th instant, from Madras, having on board 196 men, 110 women, 31 boys, 34 girls, and 8 infants; 379 souls (338½ adults).

2. The mortality during the passage was two men and one boy, one of the former being a suicide. The condition of these immigrants was unexceptionable, being unusually clean-skinned and healthy, and reflecting great credit on those in charge.

I have, &c.
(signed *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary.

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Encl. 2, in No. 42.

Enclosure 2, in No. 42.

Sir, Port of Spain, 4 December 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of His Excellency Governor Keate, that I this day visited officially the immigrant ship "Roman Emperor," 82 days out from Madras.

This vessel received on board at Madras 382 coolies, classed as follows: 198 men, 110 women, 32 boys, 34 girls, and 8 infants. Two cases of death have occurred on the passage, one from dysentery, and the other from suicide. Dysentery appeared in a few other cases, which are reported recovered. There has been also a birth on board, and none require to go to hospital.

The diet afforded to these immigrants was almost exclusively rice, and no biscuit was allowed. Fresh mutton was occasionally served out, and a small quantity of fresh vegetables, pumpkins, carrots, and cabbage, daily. The officers of the ship seem to have gone hand in hand in caring for the people, and that, with good diet, attention to cleanliness, and aëration and prosperous weather, have conduced to the result of so small a number of casualties and of the prime physical condition of these immigrants, inferior to none that have yet been imported, especially as respects the women and children.

The accommodations of the vessel are unexceptionable.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Anderson*, M. D.
Inspector of Health of Shipping.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary.

— No. 43. —

No. 43.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P.
22 Dec. 1858.

(No. 169.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

Trinidad, 22 December 1858.
(Received, 20 January 1859.)

Enclosure.
Enclosure 2.

1. I HAVE the honour to report to you the arrival of the ship "Edith Moore," with immigrants from Calcutta, and to enclose copies of the Reports of the Agent General of Immigrants and of the Health Officer thereon.

2. Eleven men, 11 women, and 5 children, have died during the passage, out of the number of 375 coolies originally embarked. Thirty liberated Africans were put on board at St. Helena, and have been distributed with the other immigrants. The mortality, I understand, took place at the commencement of the voyage.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Encl. 1, in No. 43.

Enclosure 1, in No. 43.

Sir, Immigration Office, 7 December 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the ship "Edith Moore," 1,429 tons burthen, Tweedie, master, arrived here on the 6th instant from Calcutta, having on board 246 men, 81 women, 30 boys, 26 girls, and 5 infants, equal to 388 souls (355 adults).

The mortality during the passage was 11 men, 11 women, 3 boys, 1 girl, 1 infant, equal to 27 souls (24 adults).

The "Edith Moore" touched at St. Helena, and there embarked 27 male and 3 female adults, liberated Africans, among whom no deaths occurred.

Of the Indian immigrants, 3 men and 4 women were sent to the colonial hospital; the remainder were generally in fine condition, indicating great care and attention on board.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Agent General of Immigrants.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 43.

Encl. 2, in No. 43.

Sir, Port of Spain, 7 December 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for his Excellency Governor Keate's information, my having officially visited yesterday the I. S. "Edith Moore," 92 days out from Calcutta. This vessel took on board 375 coolies, classed as follows: 257 men, 92 women, 33 boys, 19 girls, and 6 infants; of which total, 11 men, 11 women, and 5 children have died on the passage of dysentery and cholera. Four are reported convalescent from sickness, but none requiring to go to hospital.

2. There are also 30 young Africans, taken on board at St. Helena, where the ship touched. The appearance of the whole of these immigrants is highly satisfactory, indicating that all possible care has been taken of them.

3. The dietary, according to the doctor's report, has been on an improved scale, and although biscuit has been served out, it has been of a quality much superior to that supplied to former Calcutta ships.

4. The accommodations of the ship are unexceptionable.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Anderson*, M. D.,
Inspector of Health of Shipping.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 44. —

(No. 174.)

No. 44.
Governor Keate to Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. M. P.
25 Dec. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Keate* to the Right Honourable Sir *E. Bulwer Lytton*, Bart. M.P.

Trinidad, 25 December 1858.
(Received, 20 January 1859.)

Sir,

1. I HAVE been requested by Dr. Mitchell, the Agent General of Immigrants, to transmit to you the enclosed certificate in favour of Dr. Thom, the medical officer under whose care the immigrants from Madras by the "Roman Emperor" were landed in such fine condition, as reported to you in my Despatch, No. 168,* of the 21st December, and with so small a per-centage of deaths.

Enclosure.

2. My object in forwarding it is to bring Dr. Thom's name to the notice of Her Majesty's Land and Emigration Commissioners as that of a person who, by his success in this instance, has shown himself to be well qualified for the medical charge of immigrants, and to be deserving of future employment.

* Page 371.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robt. W. Keate.*

Enclosure in No. 44.

Encl. in No. 44.

Immigration Office, 20 December 1858.

I HAVE much pleasure in certifying what has been already reported to his Excellency the Governor, that the Indian immigrants landed here *ex* "Roman Emperor," from Madras, under care of Dr. Thom, were, almost without exception, in singularly fine condition, and reflected great credit on his united attention and skill.

Hy. Mitchell,
Agent General of Immigrants.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Keate. 31 August 1857.

(No. 77.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 31 August 1857.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information and guidance, the copy of a letter from the India Board, with the copy of one from the Chairman of the Emigration Commissioners, relative to the remittance to India of the property of coolie labourers who may die in the West Indies, and of the earnings which they may wish to send to their friends in India.

India Board. 13 July 1857; *vide* page 114.
Emigration Board. 24 July 1857; *vide* page 114.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 2. —

No. 2.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Keate. 15 Sept. 1857.

(No. 85.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 September 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 54,* of 6th July last, relative to the school recently established for the training and industrial education of the orphan children of Indian immigrants. In accordance with your suggestion, I have not failed to communicate directly to Mr. Burnley my gratification at the efforts which have been made by him on behalf of these children.

* Page 299.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 3. —

No. 3.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Keate. 27 Sept. 1857.

(No. 90.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 27 September 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 71,† of the 5th ultimo, reporting your arrangements consequent on the breaking out of small-pox among the immigrants from the Cape de Verde Islands, on board the "Penelope."

† Page 303.

I have to convey to you my approval of your proceedings on this occasion, at the same time I should wish to suggest to you whether some Ordinance might not be passed for securing vaccination.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 4 —

(No. 92.)

No. 4.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Keate.
6 October 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 6 October 1857.

I REFERRED to the Emigration Commissioners a copy of your Despatch, No. 82,* of the 21st August, respecting emigration from the Cape de Verde Islands, and I transmit for your information the copy of their report.

29 September 1857. Enclosure.

I have to draw your particular attention to their concluding remarks, as to the power with which the Immigration Agent should be invested.

* Page 317.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 4.

Encl. in No. 4.

Sir, Emigration Office, 29 September 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge Mr. Elliot's letter of the 23d instant, enclosing the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad respecting emigration from the Cape de Verde Islands.

2. The authorities seem to be desirous of obtaining emigrants from that quarter, but to be in doubt as to the amount of bounty which should be offered. From statements received from the master of an emigrant ship, the Governor considers that 35 dollars would be a sufficient bounty to induce shipowners to embark in this undertaking; and with the view of ascertaining this he has put himself into communication with Mr. Miller, the Consul at the Cape de Verde Islands.

3. I should think it very probable that Mr. Keate was right in supposing that 35 dollars would be a remunerative bounty; but the difficulty is, that other Colonies are prepared to give more, and that no shipowner will send his ship to any other destination than that which secures him the highest bounty.

4. The present state of the case is this:—British Guiana was the first to invite this emigration, by raising the bounty on Cape de Verde immigrants from 35 dollars to 50 dollars. Some time afterwards the authorities of Jamaica commissioned this Board to obtain for them, if possible, Cape de Verde labourers. This we endeavoured to do through Mr. Miller, the Consul, who referred us to some relations of his own, Messrs. Visger & Miller, in this country. The accounts given us by Mr. Miller of the possibility of obtaining emigrants were alternately favourable and unfavourable; but the substantial grounds on which the negotiations with that object were broken off was, that Messrs. Visger & Miller demanded a bounty of no less than 80 dollars per adult. This we thought excessive, but at the same time there did not appear to be any means within our reach of obtaining emigrants through any other channel.

5. About the same time a gentleman called on us, stating that he was charged to expend some money for St. Kitts on emigration from the Cape de Verde Islands, and desiring to know what we had promised for such emigrants, as Messrs. Visger & Miller had asked from him a sum considerably exceeding 50 dollars.

6. It appears to me probable that, under these circumstances, that Colony will obtain immigrants from the Cape de Verde Islands which will pay the highest price for them to those whose position enables them to command the emigration; and that, unless the Colonies can come to some understanding among themselves, the necessary effect of their competition will be to raise that price far above what is merely remunerative to the shipowner to the very highest rate which the West Indian employer can afford to give. This seems, in Trinidad, to amount to at least 60 dollars, the sum which was, in fact, given to Messrs. Cavan by the planters, to whom the Cape de Verde islanders introduced by them were indentured.

7. It is for the colonists to judge what is the most prudent and practicable course under these circumstances; but it may be worth while to draw Governor Keate's attention to what appears to me the real difficulty of the case.

8. I have only further to remark, that if private persons are encouraged to import immigrants (which does not seem the present wish of the local Government), under engagements to serve those employers to whom their importers may assign them, it will be necessary to invest them Imigration Agent with the power of refusing his concurrence to any engagement, not only on account of the impropriety of the terms, but also in case the estate is one to which such immigrants cannot properly be indentured.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

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— No. 5. —

No. 5.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Keate. 9 November 1857.

(No. 96.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 9 November 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 70,* of 4th August, forwarding an Ordinance passed by the Legislature of Trinidad, "To authorise contracts for five years with immigrants from certain places, and to give validity to certain contracts." †

* Page 302.

No. 5 of 1857.

† *Vide* Appendix, No. 21, p. 561.

I understand from your Despatch that the circumstances which led to the passing of the Ordinance were these: It appears that the ship "Trym." arrived in the Colony from the Cape de Verde Islands with 84 immigrants on board. No bounty was payable upon these persons, but they had entered into contracts, intended apparently to secure that they should work on the estates of Messrs. Cavan, at a certain rate of wages lower than that current in the Colony. The contract was for five years, but determinable on certain conditions (which are not specified) at the end of the third and fourth year.

The contracts were so framed that it was impossible to give legal effect to them; but unwilling to discourage the commencement of a valuable immigration, the present law has been passed to save the importer from loss on terms which were considered reasonable.

The immigrants consented to enter into fresh contracts for three years, at the rate of wages current in the Colony, instead of the lower rate originally stipulated for, with the condition that the contract should run for two more years unless the immigrant redeemed one or both of these by paying his importer a sum equal to one-fifth of his passage money for each year which he commuted.

To these fresh contracts the Ordinance gives validity.

I approve of the proceedings which have been adopted with regard to these immigrants; and I have to signify to you the Queen's confirmation and allowance of the Ordinance, No. 5 of 1857.

The objection had suggested itself to me in respect to the Ordinance, that in terms it authorises contracts for five years. I regard this, however, as rather an objection of language than of substance; inasmuch as it is immaterial whether a contract is for five years, with a power of determination on certain conditions at the end of three years, or for three years with the liability on the non-performance of these conditions to be extended to five.

But I think it essential that the payment to be made by the immigrant at the end of the third year as commutation money should be restricted to a certain sum. I wish it therefore to be expressly provided that the amount should not in any case exceed 2 *l.* or 2 *l.* 10 *s.* for each year's service which he commutes.

It will further be necessary that the current rate of wages should be secured to the immigrant in the contract.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Keate. 9 November 1857.
Page 306.

(No. 97.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 9 November 1857.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 74,* of the 6th of August, and I have read with much interest the reports enclosed in it from the Committee of Council and the Immigration Agent on the subject of immigration to Trinidad.

25 Sept. 1857. Enclosure.

2. I forwarded a copy of your Despatch to the Immigration Commissioners, and I transmit for your information a copy of Sir Frederic Rogers' report.

3 You may consider yourself authorised to take up return coolie ships in the Colony as you propose, and the local Government will be held responsible for the proper conduct of this service.

4. The Emigration Commissioners have been authorised to carry out your suggestion, that the freight of ships from India should be made payable by the Colonial

Colonial Government in Trinidad, instead of by them, and they will make the necessary alteration in their charter parties.

5. I am not prepared to accede to the proposal of the committee, that special collecting agents should be appointed and paid by the Colony, acting under the head agent appointed by the Government.

6. As regards the suggestion of the Committee that coolies should be indentured for five instead of three years, although I have not refused my assent to such contracts in the case of immigrants from Madeira and those other places to which the Ordinance, No. 5, of this year has reference, as you will learn by my Despatch, No. 96 of this date, I am not prepared to submit such an alteration of the existing law defining coolie contracts to the Court of East India Directors and the Government of India.

I have to draw your attention to the suggestion in the 33d par. of Sir F. Rogers' report in regard to the expediency of the Government's refusing to allot coolies to any estate on which rum is sold in retail on issued as an allowance.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 6.

Encl. in No. 6.

Sir, Emigration Office, 25 September 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of the 8th instant, enclosing the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, with reports on the subject of Oriental Immigration from the Committee of Council and from the Immigration Agent.

2. It is stated in these documents that the area of Trinidad is about 1,250,000 acres, its fertility immense, and the cost of clearing so moderate, that an estate capable of producing annually 250 hogsheads of sugar might be established on virgin land for 6,000*l.* It also possesses coal, a probably valuable pitch lake, and is in the neighbourhood of alleged gold discoveries.

3. With these advantages, however, the quantity of land in actual cultivation is only the following:

In sugar	34,059 acres.
In cocoa or coffee	11,481 „
In provisions	7,267 „
Total	52,807 acres.

4. The want of labour is of course the obstacle to that extension of cultivation which might be expected from such advantages of soil and situation.

5. On this head it is alleged that the creole apprentices in the island in 1834 were 15,739, and that 20,000 persons of African descent have been since introduced from other West Indian islands or from Africa; but that of these 35,000 persons, considerably less than 6,000 continue to work for wages in the manufacture of sugar or cocoa.*

6. The native creole is satisfied to raise enough for his own support, and Africans subsequently introduced contract the same habits. The Committee, therefore, do not appear to entertain much hopes of advantage from labourers of African origin.

7. From India 11,458, and from China nearly 1,000 persons have been introduced; of these, 7,927 were at work during the last crop, and by this supply of effective labour, in the opinion of the colonists, the cultivation of the island has been and must continue to be supported.

8. The Committee of Council consider that it would be unsafe to introduce Chinese in large numbers, but that if imported at the rate of about 500 per annum, and distributed somewhat widely their intelligence, industry, and perseverance would render them most valuable. They appear to have very generally become "jobbers, artisans, and small shopkeepers;" one is now a shopkeeper with a capital of at least 3,000 dollars, and commanding a mercantile credit of 5,000 dollars.

9. Governor Keate states that the Council evinced great satisfaction at learning tha Lord Elgin's attention had been directed to the promotion of emigration, and I am no aware that in the present state of affairs anything further can be said or done on the subject.

10. It will be observed that two marriages have been celebrated in some recognised form between Chinamen and creole women. This is contrary to the anticipations of those conversant with Chinese habits.

11. It

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* Number at work during the last crop - - - - 14,000
Deduct Coolies and Chinese - - - - - - 7,927
Creoles, Africans, Portuguese, and others - - - 6,073

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11. It is, however, on coolie immigration that the Committee mainly rely. They consider that a distinct expression of the wishes of the Government on the subject would procure for the West Indies any amount of labour, the expense of which they might be able to defray. They state on the authority of various masters of coolie ships, that there is no difficulty in obtaining emigrants from Calcutta. They suggest an immigration during the ensuing season of 5,000 coolies, and afterwards of 3,000 a year, and they enumerate various points in which they consider that the present system might be improved. These I shall proceed to enumerate. But I must first plainly say that I cannot attach any weight to the statements which are hazarded by masters of coolie ships, speaking without the check of personal responsibility, and on a matter on which they cannot have any practical knowledge. Confident statements of the same kind are continually made to this Board with respect to English emigration; and, when relied upon, lead almost without exception to the most signal disappointment. The history of such miscalculations is generally pretty uniform; that sanguine persons perceive the extreme ease with which they could collect a few eligible emigrants, and hastily conclude that it would be as easy to get a multitude of eligible ones; and the capricious and uncontrollable character of East Indian emigration renders such anticipations still less trustworthy in India than in England. This was but too clearly shown in the recent failure of Mr. Thomson's anticipations at Madras, involving, as Mr. Labouchere is aware, a considerable loss to the Colony and the native collector, and a curtailment of the Agent's own remuneration. I cannot but think it unfortunate, therefore, that the authorities at Trinidad should be induced by loose statements of this kind to suppose that Her Majesty's Government can command an emigration, the amount of which is in fact determined by seasons, national habits, abundance of employment in India, and other causes quite beyond the control of the Secretary of State.

12. And as on this point the result of the French emigration has been referred to, I may be allowed to observe, first, that in the opinion of the officers of the Indian Government, much fraud and misrepresentation is used in collecting these coolies; and next, that the company charged with the operation has signally failed in obtaining the numbers which they had contracted to furnish.

13. I now proceed to enumerate the suggestions of the Committee of Council.

14. They first recommended the gradual withdrawal of the right to a return passage; they express themselves, however, satisfied for the present with what has been done on this head; and, being aware that the sudden refusal of return passages might check the emigration, leave any future modification of the system to time and experience. On this it is only necessary to observe that it seems very unlikely that the policy suggested by the Committee will be practicable. The Emigration Agent at Madras has found that even the postponement of that return passage operates as a check to emigration, and Mr. Caird was at once obliged to give up the attempt to stipulate that the coolie should contribute towards it. It is also to be remembered that the West Indians cannot hope to obtain a large and constant supply of coolies, unless they make their emigration as attractive as that to Mauritius; from whence a return passage is procurable for 20*s.* or 30*s.*; and it is therefore very improbable that they will ever be able to withdraw a privilege so evidently required to counterbalance this facility in the eyes of the coolie.

15. The Governor, in commenting on this part of the Committee's report, suggests that the local Government should be authorised to charter return coolie ships in the Colony, and that the freight of ships from India should be made payable by the Colonial Government in Trinidad (as in British Guiana) instead of by this Board.

16. With regard to the first of these points, I have always supposed that the Colonial Government possessed full authority to take up return coolie ships if an opportunity offered; but I cannot doubt that they ought to possess such a power, else the most favourable occasions of providing back passages may often be lost. I should point out, however, that care should be taken not to engage ships of a worse class than would be engaged in England; and that, to avoid the risk of cold weather in rounding the Cape, none should be despatched between the middle of March and the beginning of September.

17. I am aware of no objection to the second suggestion, and we will, on receiving Mr. Labouchere's authority for doing so, make the necessary alteration in our charterparties. The result will be, that ships will be taken up by this Board, and by Mr. Caird, on the faith that the passage-money will be forthcoming at Trinidad, where the freight will be made payable.

18. Next, the Committee do not advocate emigration "in private vessels and at private expense," which they think would be open to abuse; but they desire that special collecting agents may be appointed and paid by the Colony in each Presidency, acting, however, under the supervision of the head Agent appointed by Government.

19. The obvious objection to this course has been frequently urged by this Board, viz., that the Agents would have to outbid each other in the bounties to headmen and emigrants. To this the Committee reply, that the evil would be checked by the inability of the Colonies to bear the cost of competition, *i. e.*, I suppose by the exhaustion of some of them, which would leave the others in undisputed possession of the field, or that a limit could be placed by Government on the amount of bounties; but that the best security would be in the good sense of the Colonies. To myself, it appears that the first of these remedies is one of the worst results of the evil; that, in the case of a hot competition, the second would be exceedingly difficult to enforce against determined attempts at evasion; and that in the same case the good sense of any community is a very precarious security against the risk of being carried too far.

20. The

20. The mischief, however, is one which will affect the interests, not of the Indians, but of the planters; and if, as perhaps is the case, there is a general feeling among the sugar-producing Colonies in favour of separate collecting agencies under the general control of one Chief Agent appointed by Government, it may be unadvisable for Mr. Labouchere to withstand that feeling.

21. Before making any change however on this ground, it would be necessary to ascertain whether Mauritius and British Guiana concur in desiring the adoption of this plan, the result of which I understand to be this: that each Colony engaged in Indian emigration should be at liberty to employ one or more European sub-agents for the purpose of collecting emigrants, such sub-agents being under the control of the present Chief Agent, with whom the whole responsibility of shipping the people, and consequently of determining the time when they should present themselves at the depôt, should remain.

22. It should clearly be understood that the Secretary of State should have the power of dismissing the sub-agents, either in case of misconduct or in case the experiment should appear to him to produce inconvenient consequences; and I should point out, that under the Indian law no agents can be paid by a bonus on the emigrants collected.

23. If Mr. Labouchere were to entertain this proposal, it would remain to be considered in which of the Presidencies (if not in all) the experiment should be allowed.

24. In commenting on this suggestion, the Governor observes that the greater portion of the coolies who arrived in Trinidad supposed that they were proceeding to British Guiana. We shall call Mr. Gaird's attention to this statement; but it is due to him to observe, that emigrants from the United Kingdom are found on arriving in Australia to make representations, as to the views with which they left England, directly contrary to statements made by them when candidates for emigration. It is possible the same may be the case with the Indians, few of whom can really know the difference between one West Indian Colony and another.

25. It is next proposed that the number of passengers carried in coolie ships should be subject to no greater limits than those imposed on the carriage of troops. This subject, which has been frequently considered, is under reference to the Indian Government with respect to some allegations respecting the mortality in French coolie ships; it would therefore be premature to enter on it. I will only notice a misapprehension which incidentally appears respecting the proceedings of this Board. The Committee state that, in the charterparty of the return coolie ship "Arabia," of 1,126 tons, "she was actually limited to 250 adults." A perusal of the document referred to will show that this is a mistake. There is nothing in the charterparty of the "Arabia" which need have prevented the Governor from placing on board the full complement which under the Passengers' Act the ship could lawfully carry. It is true that there is a provision that the Colony should not be bound to pay for more than 250 adults—a provision inserted by us because we are under the impression (which is borne out by Governor Keate's present despatch) that there is always the greatest uncertainty in filling return coolie ships, and that the Colonial Government therefore would not willingly guarantee to the shipowner payment on more than 200 or 250 persons at one time. If, however, the authorities at Trinidad wish this provision to be left out, there will be no difficulty whatever in omitting it. The effect will be, the rate of passage-money per head may be reduced, but that they will be bound to pay for a full complement of passengers in every ship taken up by us.

26. Thirdly, the Committee recommend a discontinuance of the new dietary in coolie ships, to which, with the altered mode of fitting, they attribute the mortality of last season. This whole subject, as Mr. Labouchere is aware, has been referred for examination to the Government of Bengal. There is certainly a general opinion among those concerned that the recent changes required by the authorities at Calcutta were not judicious; but there appears every reason to think that the coolies were also unusually predisposed to disease.

27. The Committee express their hope that Indians will not be prevented from emigrating from Bombay on the ground taken by the Bombay Government, viz., that they are wanted at home. Probably the Trinidad authorities will have already learnt that this objection has been overruled by the Governor General.

28. Lastly, the Committee suggest that the coolies on arrival should be indentured for five years instead of three. This they advocate, not for the convenience of the master, but for the protection of the immigrant; because the termination of the three years' engagement enables the employer to shake off his responsibility for any helpless person, and that in a Colony where there is no legal provision for the destitute. But I cannot help observing that this contingency may as easily happen at the end of a five years' contract as at the end of three. The difficulty is clearly one which ought not merely to be deferred, but to be met by some specific understanding or enactment applicable to all cases of coolies unable to support themselves; and it is, in fact, partially met by clause 28 of Ordinance No. 24 of 1854, which provides that the Governor may send such persons back to India at the public expense.

29. The Governor suggests that the coolie should be required to serve the employer to whom he is originally indentured for five years, unless he can redeem the last one or two years of his service by a money payment. On this point I can only refer to the observations contained in my report of this day's date on the Ordinance, No. 5, which made a similar provision with regard to the Portuguese immigrants. I am not aware that the alteration would be in itself more objectionable in the case of coolies than in the case of Portuguese, and the opportunity might be taken of somewhat reducing the rate of commutation, say to 2*l.* (the bonus which it is said a planter will pay to a fresh hand), and of securing that the

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coolie shall be an absolutely free labourer during the last five years of his residence in the Colony. An arrangement on this basis, involving an engagement for five years, determinable by a money payment at the end of the third or fourth, absolute freedom from engagement for the ensuing five years, and at the end of that period a return passage, would be more simple, and not, I should anticipate, more oppressive to the coolie than the present system; assuming, of course, that the Governor and magistrates retained their present powers of cancelling indentures.

30. It cannot, however, be denied that, considering the variety of parties who are concerned in this emigration, and whose express or tacit concurrence is necessary to any change, the Home Government, the Court of Directors, the Indian Government, the four West Indian Colonies to which emigrants proceed, and, no tleast, the coolies themselves, the evil of continual alteration is very great; and I cannot but doubt, in the present case, whether the change would produce any advantage commensurate to the inconvenience of disturbing a basis on which coolie emigration appears for some short time to have been working sufficiently well.

31. Two or three points in the interesting report of the Immigration Agent seem to deserve the notice of Government.

32. It seems that drinking has increased among the coolies, and that their calculating habits and love of money would go far towards extinguishing this evil, "were it not occasionally the interest of the employer that the coolie should drink the spirit he manufactures." Dr. Mitchell adds that intoxication is certainly most prevalent on estates where rum is manufactured and sold.

33. This appears to call for the interposition of Government. What would be the most effectual mode of interposing I am not aware; but, at any rate, I should conceive it possible for the Government to refuse to allot coolies to any estate on which rum was sold in retail.

34. It is also said that the customs of the Chinese, who are all addicted to gambling, authorise the winner, if he is not paid, to flog the loser "nearly to death." This appears to be a custom which the police ought to be able to put down in a class of the community amounting altogether to less than 1,000.

35. Dr. Mitchell, I observe, states that women and children leave the Colony in a greater proportion than they arrive. It must not be understood from this that the females are leaving in a more rapid ratio than they at present arrive, which does not seem to be the case; but that they depart in a more rapid ratio than they did arrive when those same persons were brought to the Colony.

36. During the last two years the number of adult males and females who arrived in the Colony and left it has been as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Per-centage of Females.
Arrived - - - - - -	1,340	490	36·56
Left - - - - - -	285	77	27·05

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

— No. 7. —

(No. 101.)

No. 7.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Keate. 14 November 1857.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 November 1857.

I TRANSMIT for your information the copy of a letter from Mr. Caird, reporting that in consequence of the disturbed state of the upper provinces of India, he had been unable to obtain emigrants for the West Indies; and that he had therefore been unable to employ the "Mary Harrison," which was chartered by the Emigration Board.

21 Sept. 1857. Vide page 116.

As the ship was after her time, no penalty will be payable.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 8. —

(No. 102.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

No. 8.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P., to Governor Keate.
14 Nov. 1857.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 November 1857.

I RECEIVED your Despatch, No. 73,* of the 6th of August, respecting the mode of transmitting coolies' savings to India.

* Page 304.

I had previously received a Despatch npou the subject from the Governor of British Guiana, containing a plan which he informed me he had communicated to you, in order to ascertain whether it would be acceptable to the authorities in Trinidad.

As it was very desirable that the mode of proceeding should be uniform in the two Colonies, I forwarded your Despatch, written after your receipt of Governor Wodehouse's communication to the Emigration Commissioners, with directions that they should take both the projects under their consideration together; and I transmit, for your information, a copy of their report.

You will be pleased to adopt the course suggested in it, as regards the remittance of the savings of coolies in Trinidad.

6 Nov. 1857. *Vide* page 117.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 9. —

(No. 104.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

No. 9.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Keate.
26 Nov. 1857.

Sir, Downing-street, 26 November 1857.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of September,† enclosing the copy of an Ordinance, intituled, "No. 9, of 1857. An Ordinance for raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the year 1858,"‡ which is passed in order to furnish funds for the importation of 2,000 coolies in addition to the 3,000 already ordered for the preseut season

† Page 319.

‡ *Vide* Appendix, No. 22, page 563.

There is one provision in this Ordinance which I consider open to objection, that, namely, which raises from 3*l.* to 5*l.* the tax payable by the employer to whom any immigrant may transfer his services after the third or fourth year of his industrial residence.

This additional tax appears to be imposed as a kind of balance to the increased payment which is required from employers to whom coolies arriving during this season may be allotted: it will, however have a further effect. The law under which coolies have been hitherto introduced gives them the right to change their employers after three years' service, subject to the single condition, that the fresh employer shall pay a tax of 3*l.* for their services, while the original allottee would only have paid 2*l.* A difference of 1*l.* is so small, that it can hardly be considered as any impediment to a change of employers. The present law, however, raises this difference to 3*l.*; a payment which, though directly leviable on the employer, may indirectly operate as a sensible restriction on the coolie's liberty of change; and I consider that no such increased restriction can properly be imposed on men who were introduced under the Ordinance 24 of 1854,§ and in all material points have a right to the full benefits promised to them by that Ordinance.

§ *Vide* Papers presented August 1857, p. 458.

I feel sure that the Legislature of Trinidad will not hesitate to remove this defect in the law, by repealing the last four lines of its 5th clause; and in the anticipation that they will do so, I shall authorise the Despatch to Trinidad of so many coolies as can be sent out at an expense, in respect of freight, not exceeding 50,000*l.*.

I have imposed this limit because you appear to me to have somewhat overestimated the produce of the indenture tax leviable under the 5th clause of the Ordinance, which would not amount to the sum which you expect from it, unless

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it were paid on women and children. I fear, however, that the disturbances in India, which have hitherto seriously retarded emigration, leave little hope that the Emigration Agents will be able to send out anything approaching to the number which has been ordered.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 10. —

No. 10.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Governor Keate. 4 December 1857.

(No. 106.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 4 December 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 102,* of the 7th of October, reporting the departure for Calcutta of the ship "Eveline," with 343 coolies on board.

* Page 321.

I forwarded your Despatch to the Emigration Commissioners, and I transmit to you a copy of their report.

14 Nov. 1857. Enclosure.

I have to instruct you to furnish the specific information which the Commissioners are desirous to obtain as to the number of coolies in each ship for whom they are to guarantee freight.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Encl. in No. 10.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Sir, Emigration Office, 14 November 1857.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 9th instant, enclosing the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, reporting the departure of the return coolie ship "Eveline," for Calcutta, with 343 Indians on board.

Men - -	266
Women -	33
Boys - -	18
Girls - -	22
Infants - -	4
	343

2. It will be seen that in this ship the proportion of females returning to India is not large, being not more than about 16·2 per cent. of the whole number.

3. We have directed Mr. Caird, as the Governor desires, to forward the Madras coolies to their native country, and to pay the sum of 21 *l.* 1 *s.* 8 *d.* to the Indian "Shibran."

4. We do not exactly understand that passage in Mr. Keate's Despatch, in which he adverts to the "inconvenience arising from (Dr. Mitchell's) not being made acquainted with the terms of the charterparty before the arrival of the vessel." A copy of the charterparty was despatched by the Secretary of this Board to the Colonial Secretary, according to our usual practice, on the 1st July last. If it did not reach the Immigration Agent, the omission must, we imagine, have been that of some colonial officer.

5. Dr. Mitchell suggests that we should guarantee freight to no more than 250 adults in each ship. It will be remembered that a Committee of Council complained of this limitation; but we feel no doubt that Dr. Mitchell's view is sound, and shall act on it, unless we receive instructions to the contrary. The question, however, should be brought under the distinct notice of the Colonial Government, in order that they may decide what course they would wish us to pursue. We have before now pointed out the inconvenience of being without specific instructions from the authorities on a subject on which our whole knowledge can only be derived from them, and this inconvenience is of course increased if objection is taken in the Colony by different authorities to both of the courses which it is possible for us to pursue.

6. It will be seen by the 4th paragraph of Dr. Mitchell's report that 400 coolies applied for passages, while only 250 came forward. The remainder of the 343 persons despatched was procured, he says, by telling these people that if they did not embrace this opportunity of leaving the Colony, no other would be offered them; and Dr. Mitchell points out the objections to this species of pressure on persons whose employers, as well as themselves, are unprepared for such an abrupt departure.

7. It appears to us that if this pressure was applied to the 400 persons who had come forward for return passages, it was clearly proper and unavoidable. The persons for whom a ship was taken up could not expect that they should be allowed to throw up a passage for which the Colony was bound to pay, and then claim another. It is clearly fair that they should forfeit their right, and the result of a default on these terms would be rather advantageous to the Colony; for, though it seems a waste of public money to send away a return coolie ship empty, it is really a greater loss to send her away full of labourers.

8. But

8. But as the default of these applicants is really a gain to the Colony, we think that there would be no ground whatever for forcing other coolies to take their places (under pain of losing their right to a return passage) who had not given notice of an intention to leave for India. On this point it will be remembered that the Indian Government have expressed a natural desire that the coolie should not have a return passage offered him without due notice.

9. Dr. Mitchell clearly shows the injustice which results from omitting such notices.

10. Of the savings of the coolies, 4,697 dollars are transmitted in specie, under the charge of the surgeon, and 5,389 *l.* 5 *s.* 5 *d.* through the commissariat chest. We would suggest that the commissariat receipt for this sum (which we enclose) should be forwarded to the Treasury, with a request that the amount may be paid to the East India Company, and the officer at Calcutta instructed to pay it over to the coolies entitled to it.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 11. —

(No. 113.)

No. 11.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Governor Keate. 6 January 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 6 January 1858.

WITH reference to your Despatch, No. 74,* of the 6th of August, I transmit for your information the copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, with a letter from Mr. Caird, furnishing an answer to the statement that the greater part of the coolies who arrived in Trinidad were under the impression that they had been shipped for Demerara.

* Page 306.

23 Dec. 1857. Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 11.

Encl. in No. 11.

Sir, Emigration Office, 23 December 1857.

IN a Despatch received from the Governor of Trinidad, and communicated to us in your letter of the 8th September, it was stated (paragraph 5), that the greater part of the coolies who arrived in Trinidad were under the impression that they had been shipped for Demerara.

2. In a report from this office of the 25th September* (paragraph 24), we stated that we should require an explanation on this subject from Mr. Caird. We have to enclose for transmission to the Colony the report which we have received from him. It will be seen that every emigrant is informed by the Emigration Agent of the Colony to which he is proceeding, which he is also obliged to name to the Protector of Emigrants.

* Page 377.

5 November. Sub-Enclosure.

3. As stated in the report also alluded to, our own experience of Australian emigration would lead us to believe very easily that emigrants dissatisfied with the aspect of the Colony in which they had arrived, would endeavour to make out that they ought to have been sent to another.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 11.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
5 November 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 23d September, requesting to be informed what means are taken in shipping emigrants to insure that the people shall be fully acquainted with their destination.

In reply, I have to state that each individual is distinctly informed by myself, as well as by the clerk who registers his name, with the name of the place to which he or she may be proceeding.

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proceeding. The Protector also, before countersigning the certificate, requires every individual to name the Colony; and the only conclusion that I can arrive at for the people having made these complaints is, that they are disappointed in Trinidad, and very possibly think that Guiana may be a better Colony than the one in which they have been located.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird,*
Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 12. —

(No. 118.)

No. 12.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Governor Keate, 8 January 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate.*

Sir, Downing-street, 8 January 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, enclosing copies of correspondence with the Emigration Agents at Calcutta and Madras, upon the subject of the proposed plan of collecting coolie immigrants, through the agency of delegates, to be sent from the West Indies to recruit for particular estates.

24 Dec. 1857. Vide page 123.

I concur in the remarks of the Commissioners, and you have my authority for bringing the plan into operation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 13. —

(No. 121.)

No. 13.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Governor Keate, 13 January 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Governor *Keate.*

Sir, Downing-street, 13 January 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a letter from the India Board, and of a report upon it from the Emigration Commissioners, respecting the mode of forwarding the savings of return coolies to India.

India Board, 3 December 1857. Vide page 125.

I have to instruct you to act in accordance with the suggestion made in the sixth paragraph of the Commissioners' report.

Emigration Commissioners. 30 December 1857. Vide page 128.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere*

— No. 14. —

(No. 125.)

No. 14.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Governor Keate, 15 January 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M.P. to Governor *Keate.*

Sir, Downing-street, 15 January 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 4th ultimo, No. 127,* in which you refer to a feeling entertained in Trinidad that the interests of the Colony in regard to the transmission of coolie immigrants from India are sacrificed by the Emigration Agent at Calcutta to those of British Guiana.

* Page 324.

I transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom I directed a copy of your Despatch to be referred, and I feel sure that this explanation will satisfy you that the interests of Trinidad in this respect have not been neglected.

11 January 1858. Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in No. 14.

Sir, Emigration Office, 11 January 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, respecting the feeling entertained by the colonists that their interests are sacrificed by the Emigration Agent at Calcutta to those of British Guiana.

2. The Governor states that private intelligence has been received to the effect that large numbers of coolie emigrants are procurable in Madras, but that the Emigration Agent there, who receives his instructions from Mr. Caird, has had orders only for Demerara, but none for Trinidad. We have heard nothing of this report, and indeed it will be seen from a letter from Mr. Caird, of which we enclose a copy for transmission to the Colony, that the "Wellesley," the first ship (unfortunately) of this season, has been despatched not to British Guiana, but to Trinidad, while the first ship engaged for the former Colony (the "Mary Harrison") was thrown up in consequence of the impossibility of obtaining emigrants.

20 November, Sub-Enclosure.

3. By referring to our letter of 22d of April last, it will be seen that the time for engaging ships in London was then approaching, and that a request had been received from British Guiana for 3,000 coolies, but that the colonists of Trinidad had forwarded no intimation of their intentions. Under these circumstances, and considering the known wish of the Trinidad employers to receive emigrants, we suggested to Mr. Labouchere that we should be allowed to charter at once two ships for that island, being half of the number which Mr. Caird recommended should be taken up in England. This course Mr. Labouchere approved, and we accordingly engaged the "Wellesley" and "Ellenborough" for Trinidad.

4. As the time approached for issuing instructions to Mr. Caird respecting chartering ships in India, we thought it necessary to urge him (on the 26th May) not to lose the first month of the season (September); but as without authority from Trinidad we could not advise any further appropriation of its emigration fund, we directed him "to commence the emigration as early as possible, sending the first two or three ships to British Guiana." It is possible that some imperfect version of these instructions may have created the dissatisfaction to which the Governor alludes. But we hope Mr. Labouchere will be of opinion that it was impossible for us to commence the year's emigration in any other way.

5. The Despatch in which the Governor of Trinidad requests that 5,000 coolies may be sent out is dated subsequently to our letter to Mr. Caird (June 5th). When it reached England, and we had received Mr. Labouchere's decision on it, we did not lose a post in directing Mr. Caird (in pursuance of that decision) to send emigrants to the two Colonies in equal proportions. We hope it will be clear to the colonists from this statement that there is no reason to apprehend that they will fail to receive their proper share of the scanty emigration of this year.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 14.

Emigration Agent's Office,
Calcutta, 20 November 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having despatched the ship "Wellesley" to Trinidad with the undermentioned number of emigrants, and the surgeon's original certificate (countersigned by the commander) in a different form to that in use last season, is herewith enclosed.

2. I regret to say that I still find great difficulty in procuring coolies, especially for the West Indies. I trust, however, to be able to get off the "Bucephalus" on the day fixed for her departure from this, viz. the 18th proximo.

3. I also take this opportunity of stating that no Act has yet been passed by the Indian Government authorising emigration to St. Lucia.

"Wellesley," males, 173; females, 135; boys, 47; girls, 37; infants, 29; despatched on the 12th November 1857.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird,*
Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

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— No. 15. —

No. 15. Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Governor Keate. 16 January 1858.

(No. 126.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 January 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches of the 6th and 23d September last, Nos. 89* and 98,* having reference to the emigration of coolie labourers from Bombay to the West Indies, to be conducted by private parties.

* Pages 318, 319.

I transmit to you for your information a copy of a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom I caused your Despatches to be referred.

8 December 1857, *Vide* page 129.

I have not yet received any answer to a Despatch which I addressed on the 31st July last to the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana, to which Colony I had proposed that the experiment should in the first instance be confined; and it consequently will be too late to organise any plan that could be brought into operation before the closing of the present West India season.

In the event of British Guiana and Trinidad being desirous of making the attempt next season, it will be very desirable that no time should be lost in arriving at some plan which shall be acceptable to both; and I think it would probably much facilitate such a step were you to place yourself in direct communication with the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana, to whom I have made a similar suggestion.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 16. —

No. 16. Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Governor Keate. 23 January 1858.

(No. 134.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 23 January 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information, and in order that copies may be laid before the Council, a copy of a memorial from the West India Association of Glasgow in regard to the immigration to the West Indies, and complaining of the conduct of the Emigration Agents in India in not promptly and energetically fulfilling the orders transmitted to them; together with the copy of a report upon it from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom I have caused it to be referred for their observation.

Memorial, *Vide* page 131.

Emigration Commissioners, 5 January 1858, *Vide* page 132.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 17. —

No. 17. Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Governor Keate. 1 February 1858.

(No. 140.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 February 1858.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 13th ultimo, No. 121,† I transmit to you for your information and guidance a copy of a letter from the Commissioners for the Affairs of India with reference to the transmission of the savings of return coolies to India.

19 January 1858, *Vide* page 136.

† Page 384.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 18. —

(No. 145.)

No. 18.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Governor Keate. 17 February 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 February 1858.

I TRANSMIT for your information the copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, with one from Mr. Caird, reporting the departure of the "Bucephalus" for Demerara, with 396 coolies, and adverting to the unpromising prospects of coolie emigration to the West Indies for the ensuing season.

5 February 1858, Vide page 136.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

— No. 19. —

(No. 152.)

No. 19.
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P. to Governor Keate. 25 February 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 25 February 1858.

HAVING observed that a large number of liberated Africans have been taken into Sierra Leone and located among the resident population, I instructed the Emigration Commissioners to take steps for facilitating the conveyance to the West Indies of such Africans as may hereafter reach that port under similar circumstances. I enclose the copy of an agreement which they have accordingly concluded with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. I have instructed the Governor of Sierra Leone to use his best endeavours to fill the ships furnished under this agreement with such captured Africans as may consent to emigrate. It is, of course, impossible to predict the continuance of these captures, or the degree to which the Africans may avail themselves of the opportunity offered them; but I think it desirable to inform you of the steps which I have taken to secure as far as possible to the West Indies the benefits derivable from the operations of Her Majesty's cruisers.

Vide page 139.

I have also authorised the Governor to place on board of any ship proceeding to Trinidad, such of the resident population (being labourers under the age of 40, and their families) as may be willing to proceed thither. For these persons (as under the previous agreement with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co.) the colony will have to pay 5 *l.* per adult as freight (Article 16) and a fee of a dollar to the Emigration Agent at Sierra Leone.

I have instructed the Governor of Sierra Leone to explain to the emigrants of both classes (as far as possible) that they must be prepared on their arrival to enter into contracts of service to last for three years, or (in the case of children) till the age of 18; of course, however, it will not be competent to the Government to impose or sanction such contracts, except in pursuance of some law which is in force in the colony, on the arrival of the immigrants. I draw your attention to this point, in order that the Legislature may make such provision, in accordance with the above instructions, as they may consider to be under the existing circumstances required.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

P. S.—You will find in the accompanying Parliamentary Paper the former instruction to the Emigration Agent at Sierra Leone, and various documents throwing light on this service.

TRINIDAD.

— No. 20. —

(No. 4.)

No. 20.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate. 5 March 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 5 March 1858.

I HAVE to acquaint you that a letter has been received from Mr. Caird, the emigration agent at Calcutta, reporting that on the 9th of January he had despatched the ship "Ellenborough" to Trinidad with the emigrants noted in the margin.

Males	192
Females	122
Boys	43
Girls	30
Infants	27

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

— No. 21. —

(No. 5.)

No. 21.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate. 12 March 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 12 March 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 18th January (No. 8),* and I have to convey to you Her Majesty's gracious confirmation and allowance of the Ordinance, passed by yourself and the Council of Trinidad, intituled, "An Ordinance to repeal a certain part of an Ordinance, intituled "An Ordinance for Raising Funds in Aid of Immigration, for the Year 1858.'" †

I transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

* Page 326.

No. 1, of 1858.

† *Vide* Appendix No. 24, page 564.

3 March 1858, Enclosure.

Encl. in No. 21.

Enclosure in No. 21.

Sir, Emigration Office, 3 March 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 25th ultimo, enclosing for our report the copy of an Ordinance passed by the Legislature of Trinidad, intituled,

"No. 1 of 1858, An Ordinance to repeal a certain part of an Ordinance, intituled, An Ordinance for raising funds for immigration for the year 1858."

2. The Ordinance No. 24 of 1854, in pursuance of the arrangement sanctioned by the Home Government, authorised the allotment of coolies for three years, on their arrival in the West Indies, subject to the condition, that the period of service should be extended to five years, unless at the end of the third or fourth year the coolie required to be transferred to another employer.

3. It also imposed on the employers of coolie immigrants the following taxes:

	£.
On the first allotment	2
On every subsequent year's service under the same master	2
On a change of employers (per annum)	3

4. One effect of this scale of payment was to impose a slight difficulty (to the extent of 1 *l.*), on change of employers, which it has always been considered desirable to discourage. The Ordinance, No. 9 of 1857, raised the tax on first allotments made during the ensuing season to 5 *l.*, and made a similar increase on the fee chargeable in case of any change of service.

5. Thus the labour of an immigrant introduced in 1853-4 or 1854-5, and therefore entitled to change his employer in 1857-8, would have been charged with a payment of 2 *l.*, if he retained his place; but of 5 *l.* if he changed. Mr. Labouchere considered (26 Nov. 1857), that this difference of 3 *l.* involved too sensible a restriction on the coolie's right to escape from a disagreeable service, and he accordingly required that the tax should be reduced to the original amount of 3 *l.*

6. This is done by the Ordinance now under report, which we conceive may properly be sanctioned.

7. In Mr. Keate's strictures on the practice of enticing old coolies from their employers there is no doubt some truth. But, on the other hand, it is very difficult to distinguish between

between what may be justly called the "seduction" of labourers, and the legitimate effects of a fair competition for valuable labour, to the benefit of which competition the labourer is as a general rule entitled. It is probable that the competition between sugar growers during a period of high prices is excessive and mischievous, but it seems, notwithstanding, a question with which the Legislature should meddle sparingly.

8. Your letter also encloses Governor Keate's Despatch, No. 138 of the 25th of December, respecting the proposed repeal of the export duty on produce.

9. The only material remark which occurs to us in this Despatch is that the expenditure is calculated on the supposition that 3,000 coolies will be introduced, whereas we fear that the emigration will not exceed 700 or at most about 1,000 adults.

10. The expenditure, therefore, on this head will amount at most to about 14,000 *l.* instead of 36,000 *l.*, and there can, we presume, be no doubt that the funds provided will exceed what is wanted.

11. We take this opportunity of stating that our own liabilities, exclusive of a few hundred pounds for expenses in India, which will not be required till the autumn, and of any ship which the emigration agents in India may have taken up since the date of the last advices, are, roughly speaking, as follow:

	£.
Eveline (return passages)	3,700
Wellesley	4,200
Ellenborough	3,800
£.	11,700

while the money in our hands, including the sum of 10,000 *l.* recently received, amounts to 11,750 *l.* We are not, therefore, in any present want of money.

We have, &c.
(signed.) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 22. —

(No. 6.)

No. 22.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate. 12 March 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 12 March 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 25th December (No. 138),* forwarding a copy of a resolution, passed by the Council of Trinidad, respecting the repeal of so much of the Ordinance, No. 9 of 1857, raising funds for immigration purposes, as imposes an export duty on produce.

* P. 325.

I have to convey to you my authority for submitting an Ordinance to the Council, as you have proposed, for carrying this object into effect.

I transmit to you, for your information, an extract from a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, in reference to the available funds for immigration services.

3 March 1858. Vide page 388.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 23. —

(No. 12.)

No. 23.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate. 29 March 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 March 1858.

WITH reference to my predecessor's Despatch of the 16th January last (No. 126),† I transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, reporting on an Ordinance passed by the Court of Policy of British Guiana for regulating the introduction of immigrants from Bombay on private account.

† P. 386.

6 March 1858. Vide page 144.

I have, &c.
(signed *Stanley.*

TRINIDAD.

— No. 24. —

(No. 13.)

No. 24.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate.
1 April 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 April 1858.

IN consequence of an application from some proprietors connected with the colony of British Guiana, I was led to consider the subject of affording them, as a temporary measure, some facilities to try the experiment of procuring immigrants from China for themselves, and at their own expense, and I came to the conclusion which you will find embodied in the accompanying copy of a Despatch to Governor Wodehouse. I do not know whether any gentlemen interested in Trinidad may be desirous to try a similar experiment; but I need not say that there can be no objection to apply the same principle to one colony as to the other, and I therefore enclose for your use, in case you should think it desirable to propose such a measure, the sketch of an Ordinance, to which you may understand that you are fully authorised to assent on the part of the Government.

No. 15, 1 April 1858. Page 147. Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

Encl. in No. 24.

Enclosure in No. 24.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for the introduction into this colony of Chinese labourers, at the expense of private parties, be it enacted, &c. as follows:—

1. Upon the arrival in the colony of any ship having Chinese labourers on board, the Agent General of Immigrants shall, with the Health Officer of the port, forthwith proceed on board of such vessel, and, with the assistance of such officer, shall ascertain by personal inspection of the vessel and of the passengers therein, and of the emigration papers furnished to the master of the said vessel, in pursuance of the "Chinese Passengers' Act of 1855," whether the provisions of the said Act have been complied with or not, and shall report to the Governor of the colony respecting the state of such vessel and the treatment of the passengers therein, and whether there appear to be any grounds for proceeding against the said vessel or the master thereof, under the provisions of the said Act, and respecting all other such matters as the Governor may direct.

2. All written contracts for the performance of any labour or service of agriculture in this colony, which shall be made with any Chinese labourer, male or female, who shall have left China or Hong Kong for this colony between the passing of this Ordinance and the first day of April next ensuing, shall be binding on the parties thereto for the period named therein, not exceeding the period of five years, to be computed from the day of the landing of such labourer in Trinidad, provided that the same contracts shall be signed with the names or marks of the contracting parties, or of persons lawfully acting on their behalf, and shall be attested by the Emigration Officer at the port of embarkation, who shall declare that the said labourer signed the same contract voluntarily, and with a due understanding of its effect; provided also, that every such contract shall conform to the following conditions, viz.:—

1st. Every such contract shall secure to the labourer making the same the right to receive, in lieu of any fixed wages specified therein, the rate of wages which may from time to time be paid to unindentured labourers working on the estate on which he shall be employed.

2d. Every such contract shall bind the employer to furnish to the labourer, free of charge, suitable lodging, and, when sick, suitable and sufficient medicines, medical attendance, and hospital accommodation.

3d. Every such contract shall be terminable by the labourer party thereto, at the expiration of the third year thereof, on payment to the Immigration Agent General of 50 dollars, or at the expiration of the fourth year thereof on payment of 25 dollars.

4th. Every such contract may bind the labourer to repay to his employer, at such rate, not exceeding one dollar a month, as may be determined by the Governor, any specified sum not exceeding 12 dollars as may have been advanced to him before leaving China.

3. Every such contract shall, on the arrival of the labourers, be submitted to the Immigration Agent General, who shall and may make such alterations therein for the benefit of the labourer as he shall judge necessary to make the same conformable to the above conditions, and shall thereupon record and countersign the same; and no such contract or altered contract shall be binding on any labourer till so countersigned.

4. Such

4. Such contracts may be made in the form contained in the annexed Schedule, and at the expiration thereof may be renewed for a period not exceeding three years.

5. Every such contract or renewed contract shall be deemed to be an indenture; and during the currency of the same every Chinese labourer shall be deemed to be an immigrant; and service under such indenture or renewed indenture, or the redemption of such service under the second clause of this Ordinance, shall be deemed to be industrial residence within the meaning of the following sections of the Ordinance, No. 24 of 1854, intituled, An Ordinance to Amend and Consolidate the Laws with regard to Immigration; namely, Sections 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 45, 46, 47.

6. If it shall be established before any two justices of the peace, on complaint preferred by any Chinese labourer, that such labourer is not provided by his employer with sufficient work to enable him to earn a just amount of wages under the terms of such contract as aforesaid, such justice shall declare his contract to be cancelled; and thereupon it shall be lawful for the Governor to cause any labourer whose contract shall have been cancelled under the provisions of this or the above-recited Ordinance, to be indentured to some other employer on the terms, as near as may be, of the said contract, for a period not exceeding the unexpired period of his term of service.

7. All sums received by the immigration agent from any Chinese labourer, in virtue of the third article of the second section of this Ordinance, shall be paid over by him to the person who may have defrayed the expense of introducing such labourer.

8. In this Ordinance the word "Governor" shall include the officer administering the government for the time being; and the phrase, "Agent General of Immigrants and Employer" shall have the meanings assigned to them in the said Ordinance, No. 24 of 1854.

SCHEDULE (Section).

IT is agreed between A. B., Chinese labourer, and C. D., acting on behalf of E. F., proprietor of the plantations X. [and Z.] in the colony of Trinidad, that A. B. shall serve the said E. F. on [one of] the said plantation[s] in the growing or manufacturing articles the produce of such plantation for the term of five years from the day on which A. B. shall land in Trinidad; provided always, that it shall be lawful for A. B. to terminate the said agreement at the expiration of three years on payment of the sum of 50 dollars, or at the end of four years on payment of the sum of 25 dollars. And it is further agreed that E. F. shall pay to A. B. the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under contract or indenture, working on the same plantation, not being less than at the rate of a day (which wages shall be paid on the last day of every week), and shall supply A. B. free of cost with suitable lodging, and with such medicines and medical attendance and hospital accommodation as A. B. may need when sick. And it is further agreed that if the said plantation shall come into the possession of any other person than the said E. F., A. B. shall be bound to serve such other person, if required to do so, on the same plantation, and on the above terms.

And it is further agreed that E. F. may deduct from the wages of A. B., at the rate of one dollar a month, the total sum of [not more than 12] dollars, which A. B. acknowledges himself to have received in advance before leaving China.

— No. 25. —

(No. 20.)

No. 25.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate.
16 April 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 April 1858.

I TRANSMIT for your information copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, reporting the despatch of the "Saladin" to Trinidad by the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, and other proceedings of the Emigration Agent at Calcutta.

15 April 1858. Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

TRINIDAD.

Encl. in No. 25.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Sir, Emigration Office, 15 April 1858.

WE enclose for the information of Lord Stanley, and for transmission to the Governor of Trinidad, copies of three letters which have reached us from Mr. Eales, who appears to be acting for Mr. Caird as Emigration Agent at Calcutta. The circumstances of his appointment were probably reported in the letters which were lost in the "Ava." Of Mr. Caird's illness we were already aware.

No. 9, 20 Feb. Sub-Enclosure 1.
No. 10, 22 Feb. Sub-Enclosure 2.
No. 11, 23 Feb. Sub-Enclosure 3.

2. Mr. Eales reports that he has despatched the "Saladin" for Trinidad, with the following number of persons on board:

Male adults	201	313
Female adults	112	
Boys	37	55
Girls	18	
Infants	18	18
TOTAL	386	386

that he has chartered the "Salsette" for the same colony, and that the "Hamilla Mitchell" has arrived in the Hooghley with return coolies from British Guiana.

3. The rate of freight is 14*l.* per adult on the emigrants by the "Saladin" (equal to 340 adults), and 13*l.* per adult on those by the "Salsette," of whom the number is not known. The total freights, if the "Salsette" is a large ship, may possibly be somewhat more than 9,000*l.*; and the engagement of the two ships will probably cause the expenses of the season to exceed by 4,000*l.* or 5,000*l.* the sum roughly suggested in our letter of 7th instant (viz. 14,000*l.*). The freights are made payable in the colony, and it is therefore not necessary that any money should be at present remitted to us.

4. We think it safest to request that the enclosures to Mr. Eales' letter, No. 9, of 20th of February, may be transmitted to Trinidad with the letter itself. It will of course be observed that the surgeon has received 200 rupees in Calcutta on account of his gratuity.

We have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Sub-Enclosure 1, in No. 25.

(No. 9 of 1858.)

Sir, Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 20 February 1858.

I HAVE the honour to state for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having this day despatched the ship "Saladin" to Trinidad, with the undermentioned number of emigrants:

2. Copy of a charterparty, together with the surgeon's certificate of health of the above vessel is herewith enclosed.

Males, 201; females, 112; boys, 37; girls, 18; infants, 18.

I have, &c.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *C. Eales.*

Sir,

I HEREBY appoint you to be surgeon superintendent of the ship "Saladin," which vessel is expected to sail about the 20th instant with coolies for Trinidad.

2. You will be so good as to call at my office on the 19th instant, for the purpose of thoroughly examining each individual prior to going on board, and also to inspect the medicines and see that they are of good quality.

3. A copy of the instructions for your guidance, to which it will be your duty strictly to attend, will be handed to you on your taking charge of the emigrants.

4. Your remuneration will consist of a free cabin passage (with diet at the captain's table) from Calcutta to Trinidad, and from thence to England; secondly, of a gratuity of (4) four rupees for each cooly landed alive in the West Indies, provided you discharge your duties to the satisfaction of the Government authorities in Trinidad.

5. The advance of rupees (200) two hundred, made to you in Calcutta, will be deducted from your gratuity, which is payable in Trinidad.

I have, &c.

Mr. C. S. Cameron.

(signed) *C. Eales.*

Sub-Enclosure 2, in No. 25.

(No. 10 of 1858.)

Sir, Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 22 February 1858.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, having taken up the ship "Salsette," E. Swinton, Commander, at 13*l.* per adult, for the conveyance of coolies to Trinidad, and that I hope to be able to despatch her on or about the 12th proximo.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Offig. Emign. Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 3, in No. 25.

(No. 11 of 1858.)

Sir, Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 23 February 1858.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your communication of 18th November 1857, I have the honour to state that the necessary alterations in the mode of payment of passage money for Trinidad ships was effected in clause 12 of the charterparty of the "Saladin," which ship quitted this port on the 20th instant.

I further desire to inform you of the arrival in the River Hooghley of the ship "Hamilla Mitchell" this morning; full particulars relative to her will be duly forwarded by the next mail.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales.*

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 4, in No. 25.

LIST of EMIGRANTS proceeding by the Ship "Saladin" to *Trinidad*, who are considered by the Examiner of Emigrants in any way ineffective or disqualified by old age, but passed for reasons put opposite their respective Names.

SHIP'S NUMBER.	NAMES.	AGE.	MALES.	FEMALES.	BOYS.	GIRLS.	REMARKS.
338	Mungroo -	5	-	-	1	-	Has slightly enlarged spleen, but sent with friends.
372	Kumul -	7	-	-	1	-	Rather thin, but not otherwise sick; sent with friends
371	Khoytan -	6	-	-	1	-	Ditto - ditto - ditto.

(signed) *J. B. Scriven,*
Medical Examiner.
E. Cameron,
Ship's Surgeon "Saladin."
James H. Baillie,
Commander Ship "Saladin."

— No. 26. —

(No. 21.)

No. 26.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate.
21 April 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley,* M. P. to Governor *Keate.*

Sir, Downing-street, 21 April 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 22d February, No. 24,* forwarding a Resolution passed by the Council of Trinidad, for the introduction of 3,000 coolie immigrants and 500 Chinese immigrants, during the season of 1858–59.

* P. 335.

I have to acquaint you in reply, that I have authorised the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to instruct the agents in India to send, if practicable, the 3,000 coolies for which th Council have applied.

TRINIDAD.

As regards the application for 500 Chinese immigrants, I must refer you to my Despatch of the 1st instant, No. 13,* and if the Council should still be desirous of obtaining immigrants of this description, they must for the present be introduced, if at all, under the arrangement therein referred to, as there is no Government machinery for that purpose.

* P. 390.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 27. —

(No. 28.)

No. 27. Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate. 3 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 3 May 1858.

† P. 390.

WITH reference to my Despatch, No. 13 † of the 1st ultimo, communicating the reasons which had induced me to sanction the introduction of Chinese immigrants into British Guiana, and authorising you to sanction a similar measure for Trinidad, I have to acquaint you that instructions have been issued by the Earl of Malmesbury for the appointment of Her Majesty's Consular officers at the five ports in China to be Agents for Immigration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 28. —

(No. 29.)

No. 28. Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate. 3 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 3 May 1858.

‡ P. 329.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 11th February (No. 19),‡ transmitting copies of two reports from Dr. Mitchell, the Immigration Agent General of Trinidad.

20 April 1858. Enclosure.

I transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom I directed a copy of your Despatch, and of its enclosures, to be referred.

I trust that I shall soon receive the result of the inquiry, which you mention to have been commenced by a Committee of the Council, into the laws affecting the sale of rum, as the creation of habits of drunkenness which have not hitherto characterised the immigrants, but which, once engendered, may very likely become ineradicable, can only be prevented by immediate action.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

Encl. in No. 28.

Enclosure in No. 28.

Sir, Emigration Office, 20 April 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of 31st ultimo, enclosing the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, with two reports from the Agent General of Immigration, Dr. Mitchell.

2. One of these is Dr. Mitchell's annual report for 1857; the other contains his observations on some remarks made in a report from this office.

3. The general report must be read with the recollection that it is written, if not during the actual prevalence of extraordinarily high prices, yet before these prices have been largely reduced. Any great and continued fall, therefore, could scarcely fail to alter materially the picture which he presents.

4. At present, it appears that the stimulus which the recent rate of profit has given to cultivation, and so to wages, have produced some curious and rather inconsistent results.

5. The

5. The offer of extravagant wages to the old creole population has in one district led to extravagant expectations, and so to a temporary, if not final, abandonment of field work by the creoles, when wages began to decline. The same increase of wages has enabled the coolie to get, besides his usual wages, 2*l.* or 3*l.*, or a promise of 4*l.*, as a bonus on a yearly indenture, and has encouraged him to increase his industry; "undertaking piecework in the cane field over and above his daily tasks." It would also seem to have induced an influx from older colonies of about 1,800 native creoles; a most important circumstance to those islands where wages are far below the level of British Guiana or Trinidad.

6. With regard to the state of the coolies, several encouraging facts are stated. The free coolies indenting themselves at a premium to masters of their own choosing, are said to work well, and "to introduce among their fellows a more contented spirit." The number of commitments of immigrants to gaol during 1857 is only two-thirds of the number for 1856. The number of days registered as lost from sickness or idleness in 1857 is reduced (proportionately to numbers at work) to one-fifth of what it was in 1856; and the Agent General, in his second letter, records his opinion, that "in proportion to the increasing ratio (of women) has been the improvement of the general body of immigrants in steadiness and industry." On the other hand, there appears to be an amount of drunkenness among them which, remembering that it is a vice which they have learnt in their new home, is very lamentable.

7. Among the Chinese there appears to be now little mortality, and they are represented to be, as a whole, "superior to any other labourers." Seventeen have been baptized; five had been married; and three were about to be so; their savage assaults on each other had entirely ceased; the extreme abuse of opium is somewhat less apparent, and their national exclusiveness and jealousy of interference was yielding to a respect for the administration of English justice. Gambling, however, was as common as ever.

8. The Cape de Verd immigrants are working and behaving well; one exceptional case of dispute is ascribed to the influence of an individual of indifferent character.

9. The second report of the Agent General principally relates to the sale of rum to Indian labourers. In a previous report, Dr. Mitchell stated that the coolie's love of money would in a great measure deter him from buying liquor, "were it not occasionally the interest of the employer that the coolie should drink the spirit he manufactures." He added, that intoxication was certainly most prevalent in estates where rum was manufactured and sold.

10. It was suggested, in a report from this office, that this state of things seemed to call for the interposition of Government, and that it might, at any rate, be practicable to refuse to allot coolies on any estate on which rum was sold in retail.

11. On this suggestion Dr. Mitchell has been directed to report. He considers that if no immigrants were allotted to estates on which the proprietor sold rum, the rule would be evaded by collusion between the proprietor and the retailer, or that small grog shops would spring up in detached lots in the vicinity of estates. This may be in some degree true; but we cannot but believe that it would be a wise course first to put down the avowed connexion between proprietors of estates and the retail of spirituous liquor to the labourers, and then to try what could be done to prevent evasions and to control the proceedings of liquor shops.

12. Dr. Mitchell thinks, however, that the evil might be somewhat lessened by compelling proprietors in all cases to pay their wages in cash, instead of paying them (as is often done at present) by orders on the shopkeeper. The Governor doubts "whether this rule might not operate inconveniently with regard to other and more legitimate trade arrangements, in which the credit of the employers is used for the benefit of the coolie." We cannot ourselves entertain much doubt that Dr. Mitchell's suggestion is a good one. The inconveniences anticipated by the Governor appear to us like those which an irregular person experiences from the enforcement of regularity. They are, no doubt, real for the present, but they will disappear under the improved system of which they are the first but temporary consequence. The present practice, which would allow an employer to keep a spirit shop, and to pay his labourers by orders on that shop, appears to us as indefensible in theory as it is evidently mischievous in practice; nor can we doubt that the practice of payment otherwise than in cash must in all cases encourage irregularity in the master, and create a feeling of dissatisfaction in the labourers.

13. Lastly, Dr. Mitchell traces much of the evil to the facility with which licenses to sell spirits are issued on the requisition of any person for a short period, and therefore on a small payment.

14. As the laws affecting the sale of rum are now under the consideration of a Committee of the Council, it may be convenient that the Secretary of State should defer any detailed notice of Mr. Keate's present communication till the result of that consideration appears, especially as Dr. Mitchell states that the connexion between proprietors and the retailing of liquor has decreased during the present year. We have thought it best, however, to notice the prominent features of Dr. Mitchell's report.

TRINIDAD.

15. With regard to the Chinese, it was observed in the report from this office already quoted, that the Governor ought to be able to put down a custom said by Dr. Mitchell to exist among the Chinese, which allowed the winner in gambling cases to beat the loser almost to death if he could not pay what he had lost. He states, however, (as we have already observed,) that these assaults have entirely ceased, from the effect of occupation, pay, and equal rights on a "naturally sober, active, and industrious race."

16. We do not see in Dr. Mitchell's report anything further which requires remark.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 29. —

(No. 30.)

No. 29.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate.
3 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 3 May 1858.

21 April 1858. *Vide* page 150.

I TRANSMIT for your information copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, stating the number of vessels with coolie immigrants that have been already despatched to the West Indies during the present year.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 30. —

(No. 32.)

No. 30.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate.
13 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 13 May 1858.

* Page 328.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 17* of the 9th of February, accompanied by a report of the arrival of the ship "Wellesley" from Calcutta.

Emigration Commissioners, 14 April. *Vide* page 153.

I enclose for your information the copy of a report which I have received on the subject from the Emigration Commissioners, and of the answer which I have directed to be returned to it. I have applied to the East India Board for a completion of the inquiry at Calcutta, which was requested last year, into the causes of mortality amongst emigrants from that place, and for a communication of the result to this department.

Colonial Office, 12 May. *Vide* page 158.

From the communication made by my desire to the Emigration Commissioners, you will perceive the reasons for which I have not thought that experience supplies sufficient grounds, as yet, to justify a reduction in the space allotted by law to emigrants from Madras and Bombay to the West Indies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 31. —

(No. 34.)

No. 31.
Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate.
15 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 May 1858.

15 May 1858. *Vide* page 160.

IN order to put you in possession of the steps which have been taken on a question of general interest, I enclose for your information a copy of a Despatch, and its enclosure, which I have had occasion to send to the Governors of Jamaica and British Guiana, on the existing obstacles to the plan which would have sanctioned, in the case of coolies, a commutation of their right to a back passage.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

— No. 32. —

(No. 40.)

No. 32.
Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M. P. to Governor Keate, 21 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 21 May 1858.

I TRANSMIT for your information copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, together with a statement of the ships and emigrants despatched from Calcutta to the West Indies during the present season.

17 May 1858, *Vide* page 163.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

— No. 33. —

(No. 45.)

No. 33.
Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate, 28 May 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 28 May 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, reporting that they have chartered the ship "Dudbrook" to carry emigrants from Calcutta to Trinidad.

25 May 1858, Enclosure.

I have to request that you will cause a sum of 3,000 *l.* to be remitted to the Commissioners, to enable them to meet the demands upon them on account of emigration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*

Enclosure in No. 33.

Encl. in No. 33.

Sir, Emigration Office, 25 May 1858.

WITH reference to your letter of the 21st of April, instructing us to take measures for despatching 3,000 coolies to Trinidad, we have the honour to state that we have chartered the ship "Dudbrook" to carry emigrants from Calcutta to Trinidad, at the rate of 10 *l.* 8 *s.* per adult. The "Dudbrook" is to be at Calcutta on the 1st October, and to be ready to take in emigrants on the 1st of November next.

2. We take this opportunity of stating that the payment of the freights of the "Eveline" (return coolie ship), "Wellesley," and "Ellenborough," have reduced the balance in our hands to about 250 *l.*, and we shall before long be called upon to repay to the Indian Government the advances made to Mr. Caird for expenses incurred in India during the season 1857-58, amounting to about 2,600 *l.* We would request, therefore, that the Governor may be instructed to place at our disposal, as soon as convenient, the sum of 3,000 *l.*

3. The freights of the ships "Salsette" and "Saladin" are payable by the Governor in the colony, either in cash or by bills on us. If paid by such bills, it will of course be necessary to furnish us with the means of meeting them.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 34. —

(No. 64.)

No. 34.
Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M.P. to Governor Keate, 2 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Lord *Stanley*, M.P. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 2 June 1858.

HAVING referred to the Emigration Commissioners your Despatch, No. 65* of the 18th April, reporting the arrival of the "Ellenborough" with coolie immigrants from Calcutta, I transmit for your information a copy of their reply, from which you will perceive that copies of the charterparty both of the "Ellenborough" and the "Wellesley" were transmitted to the Colonial Secretary on the 30th of June last.

* Page 336.

27 May 1858, Enclosure.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley*.

TRINIDAD.

Encl. in No. 34.

Enclosure in No. 34.

Sir, Emigration Office, 27 May 1858.

We have to acknowledge your letter of the 24th instant, enclosing a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, in which he reports the arrival in that colony of the coolie ship "Ellenborough" from Calcutta, with 391 souls on board.

2. With respect to the statement of Mr. Keate, that no copies of the charterparty of this vessel or of a previous one (the "Wellesley") had ever reached the colony, we have to state that we transmitted copies to the Colonial Secretary, according to our usual practice, on the 30th June last. We are of course unable to conjecture the cause of their non-arrival.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 35. —

No. 35.
Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, M. P. to Governor Keate, 4 June 1858.

(No. 66.)

Extract of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Lord *Stanley*, M. P. to Governor *Keate*.

Downing-street, 4 June 1858.

* Page 337.

I have received your Despatch, No. 67* of the 20th of April, relative to the appointment of an Emigration Agent for Trinidad and for British Guiana at Bombay, and I have to refer you in answer to the general instructions which I send you by this mail, upon the agency for collecting emigrants in India for the West Indies.

— No. 36. —

No. 36.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate, 11 June 1858.

(No. 3.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 11 June 1858.

I transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with the accounts enclosed, so far as they relate to Trinidad, submitting the mode of apportionment between the different West India Colonies concerned, of Mr. Caird's expenditure for coolie emigration during the seasons of 1855-6 and 1856-7.

Vide page 166. 7 June 1858.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 37. —

No. 37.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate. 15 June 1858.

(No. 6)

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 15 June 1858.

† Page 338.

I have received your Diespatch, No. 68† of the 21st of April, and I have to convey to you Her Majesty's confirmation and allowance of the Ordinance, intituled, "An Ordinance for repealing certain Duties imposed for raising Funds in aid of Emigration."‡

No. 8 of 1858.

‡ *Vide* Appendix, No 24, p. 564.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 38. —

(No. 10.)

No. 38.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate. 17 June 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 June 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copy of one from Mr. Franklin, the Emigration Agent at Madras, reporting that he despatched the "White Eagle" with coolie emigrants to British Guiana, and explaining the reasons of his not having been able to send a larger number.

3 May 1858, Vide page 168.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 39. —

(No. 15.)

No. 39.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate. 2 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 2 July 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you an extract from a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with extract of a letter from Mr. Caird, on the subject of certain complaints made by coolie immigrants on their return to India from the West Indies.

Extract 14 June 1858. Vide page 170.

I shall be glad to receive your remarks upon those complaints.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 40. —

(No. 21.)

No. 40.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate. 29 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 July 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 9th ultimo, No. 83,* respecting the arrival of the "Saladin" in Trinidad, with emigrants from Calcutta.

* Page 340.

I transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom I directed your Despatch to be referred.

22 July 1858, Vide page 173.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 41. —

(No. 23.)

No. 41.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate. 31 July 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 31 July 1858.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 73† of the 7th May last, forwarding an Ordinance passed by the Council of that island for the encouragement of immigration from China, together with two resolutions of the Council; the first appropriating a sum of 20,000*l.* to this immigration, the second requesting that the Secretary of State would give the necessary directions for the introduction of as many Chinese as could be introduced for that sum.

† Page 338.

2. I caused your Despatch, and its enclosures, to be referred to the West India Committee; and I transmit, for your information and guidance, copy of a correspondence with the Committee upon this subject.

Enclosure 1, 28 July 1858. Enclosure 2, 30 July 1858.

TRINIDAD.

No. 11 of 1858.

3. I have to convey to you Her Majesty's confirmation and allowance of the Ordinance passed by yourself and the Council of Government, intituled, "An Ordinance for the Encouragement of Immigration into Trinidad from China."*

* *Vide* Appendix No. 25, p. 565.

4. With regard to the resolutions of the Council, I request that you will lay before them a copy of the letter to the West India Committee, from which they will learn the reasons why I have felt myself precluded from acting in accordance with their wishes.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. 1, in No. 41.

Enclosure 1, in No. 41.

Sir, Downing-street, 28 July 1858.

No. 73, 7 May 1858.

I AM directed by secretary Sir E. Bulwer Lytton to transmit to you, for the information of the Committee of West India Proprietors, a copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, forwarding an Ordinance passed by the Council of that island for the encouragement of immigration from China.

This Ordinance has been passed for the purpose of carrying out the scheme of immigration from China proposed by Governor Wodehouse, concurred in by the West India Committee, and sanctioned as an experiment, and for a limited period, by Lord Stanley. A principal feature of this plan was, as the Committee are aware, the understanding that all expenses should be defrayed at the private expense of the parties introducing the immigrants.

It appears, however, that the Council are desirous that this immigration should be conducted by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and they have accordingly passed two resolutions; the first appropriating a sum of 20,000 *l.* to this immigration, the second requesting that the Secretary of State would give the necessary directions for the introduction of as many Chinese as could be introduced for that sum.

Sir E. Lytton is most anxious that the proprietors of estates in Trinidad should be able to avail themselves to the fullest extent of the permission already given for the introduction of Chinese; but at the same time I am to state that he does not feel himself so far warranted by the existing circumstances in deviating from the arrangement sanctioned by his predecessor, as to agree that the cost of introduction should be defrayed from public funds.

Sir E. Lytton would have felt no reluctance in coming to this decision, nor would he have had any hesitation in determining to leave the immigration to be conducted, as he proposes it should be, by the proprietors of estates themselves at their own expense, in the same manner as it has been undertaken by proprietors of estates in British Guiana; but that it has occurred to him as probable that some of the resident proprietors, desirous of obtaining Chinese immigrant labour, may have thought that in agreeing to the resolution of the Council their private interests were sufficiently provided for, and may consequently have refrained from taking any further steps in the event of the immigration proceeding upon a different principle. It is clearly important that they should not be disappointed in the expectations which they may not unreasonably have formed in this matter, and that through an accident they should not be precluded from participating in what was intended as a benefit for all.

I am therefore to request that you will inform the Committee, that in conveying to Governor Keate Her Majesty's confirmation of the Ordinance No. 11 of 1858, and when announcing to him the decision to which I have above referred, Sir E. Lytton would propose, to obviate the necessity of references to and from Trinidad, at once to instruct Governor Keate to make it known in the island that the subscription list in England will be kept open by the West India Committee to enable any resident proprietor to avail himself of the general arrangement sanctioned under Lord Stanley's Despatch of the 1st of April, No. 13, and to participate in the advantages thereby extended to the owners of estates in Trinidad. It will then be necessary for any such resident proprietor to place himself in communication with the Committee for that purpose.

Sir E. Lytton would be glad to learn the concurrence of the West India Committee in these views at their earliest convenience, in order that Governor Keate may receive the necessary instructions by the mail of the 2d of August.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Carnarvon.*

A. Macgregor, Esq.
W. I. Committee.

Encl. 2, in No. 41.

Enclosure 2, in No. 41.

West India Committee Rooms, Walbrook House,
Sir, 30 July 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Earl of Carnarvon's communication of the 28th instant, to Mr. Macgregor, with its enclosures.

The West India Committee are anxious to carry out the emigration now permitted from China, in accordance with the views of Her Majesty's Government, and to admit all parties

in

in the West Indies to an equal participation in the enterprise. To this end, the papers relating thereto were originally transmitted to Trinidad, as well as to British Guiana and Jamaica, and the proprietors of those colonies invited to join.

Several of the principal Trinidad proprietors resident in this country subscribed to the emigration fund; but afterwards, in consequence of the resolutions of the Council, withdrew their names; and two months of valuable time, as regards that colony, have thus been lost.

In the meantime it was necessary that those gentlemen who had subscribed on the part of British Guiana should enter into a formal engagement with each other, and with Mr. Gerard, the agent appointed to act for them in China, and become legally responsible for the large expenditure incident to the experiment.

Seeing that Her Majesty's Government have now determined not to act on the resolutions of the Council of Trinidad, the Committee can have no objection to re-open the list for subscriptions on the part of Trinidad proprietors, whether resident in this country or in the colony. But, considering that the favourable season for the despatch of emigrants from China terminates very early in March, it is essential that the names of those in Trinidad should be transmitted to the Committee, at the latest, by the second packet which leaves the West Indies in September.

It will, of course, be necessary that any parties in the colony desiring to join in the subscription should authorise some agent in this country to pay the deposit of 2 *l.* per head of emigrants ordered, and to execute, on their behalf, the agreement entered into by the other subscribers to provide the remainder of the funds required when called upon so to do.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stephen Cave*,
Chairman.

* The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., M.P.
&c. &c. &c.
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

— No. 42. —

(No. 30.)

No. 42.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate.
26 August 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 26 August 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 17th ult., No. 100,* in which you inform me that the Council adopted the proposed mode for the appointment of separate emigration agents in India, and recommending that Mr. Johnston, the Colonial Secretary, should be appointed Agent at Calcutta, and Mr. Thornton Warner, the Registrar of the Supreme Court, to be the Agent at Madras, both these apppointments to be held temporarily for not exceeding two years; and with permission to those gentlemen to retain their present offices, but without receiving any portion of the salary attached to them.

* Page 344.

I am of opinion that there are serious objections to an arrangement which would place so important a department as that of Colonial Secretary in the hands of an acting officer for so long a period as is now contemplated, and I entertain some further doubts on a consideration of Mr. Johnston's impaired health. But, at the same time, as it appears that much confidence is placed both by yourself and the planters in Mr. Johnston and Mr. Warner; and as the planters doubtless feel that the success of immigration at this conjuncture is of great importance to the welfare of the colony, I will not refuse to give my sanction to the employment of Messrs. Johnston and Warner in this service, on the terms and conditions you have proposed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 43. —

(No. 36.)

No. 43.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate.
2 September 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart. to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 2 September 1858.

I transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter from the India Board, with a report upon it from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners,

10 August 1858, Enclosure 1.

missioners, relating to the amount of savings paid to the return coolies from Trinidad to Calcutta by the "Eveline."

26 August 1858, Enclosure 2.

It will be desirable that you should give such directions as will prevent in future similar errors in the amounts transmitted on account of the savings of coolies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. 1, in No. 43.

Enclosure 1, in No. 43.

Sir, India Board, 10 August 1858.

30 July 1858, Sub-Enclosure.

I AM directed by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India to transmit to you, for the consideration of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, a copy of a letter from Mr. Dickinson with its enclosures, relative to the repayment to the East India Company, of the difference between the amount already disbursed to them for the refund of the savings of certain coolies on their return to Calcutta from Trinidad, per ship "Eveline," and the sums actually paid to those coolies according to the descriptive rolls received from the Emigration Commissioners in regard to them.

I am, &c.
H. Merivale, Esq. (signed) *George Clerk.*

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 1, in No. 43.

Sir, East India House, 30 July 1858.

I AM commanded by the Court of Directors of the East India Company to forward to you the enclosed copy of a letter from the Government of India, dated 20th May (No. 66) 1858, with its enclosures, relating to the money savings of the coolies who returned to India from Trinidad by the ship "Eveline."

2. The sum paid to the Court of Directors in January last, on account of these coolies, was 5,389*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, which sum the Government of India were authorised by the Despatch, No. 9 of 1858, to repay to the claimants on their arrival. The "Eveline" having reached Calcutta some time before the Court's orders were received, and the coolies suffering great inconvenience from the nonpayment of money due to them, their claims were paid on the strength of the descriptive rolls, received from the Secretary to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners in London, amounting to *Rs.* 54,177. 14. or 5,417*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* It was always understood, that payment should be made to the coolies of the amount which appeared to be due to them immediately on their arrival at the Indian port to which the ship was bound, and the authorities at Calcutta had no course to take, but to make the payment in accordance with the documents which were forthcoming at the time. The Court have therefore to request that arrangements may be made by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the payment to their account of the difference between the amount already paid to them for the coolies on the "Eveline" and the sum actually paid to the coolies; the amount in question is 28*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*

3. There has evidently, as shown in the accompanying correspondence, been some error at Trinidad in making up the different statements of sums due to these return immigrants; and the Secretary of State for the Colonies will, no doubt, see fit to issue such directions as may prevent the inconvenience which has arisen from the mistake in the present instance.

I have, &c.
The Secretary, India Board. (signed) *J. D. Dickinson.*

Home Department.—(No. 66 of 1858.)

To the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company.

Honourable Sirs,

YOUR Despatch, No. 9 of 1858, dated the 26th January, relative to the money savings deposited at the Colonial treasury by the emigrants who have returned from Trinidad on the ship "Eveline," having been communicated to the Government of Bengal, we have now the honour to transmit the accompanying copy of a correspondence submitted by that Government on the subject.

2 It appears that previously to the receipt of your Despatch, the Government of Bengal had, on the urgent application of the Protector of Emigrants, instructed the sub-treasurer to place at his disposal the sum of 5,417*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* or *Rs.* 54,177. 14., which was stated to be the sum required to satisfy the claims of the emigrants.

3 As your Honourable Court, however, authorised the payment to these emigrants of 5,389*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* only, the Protector of Emigrants and the Emigration Agent were both called upon

upon to explain the discrepancy in the amount. The former urged that his calculation was founded upon a document supplied to him from the office of the Emigration Agent, and the latter officer stated that he was guided by the nominal roll received by him from the Secretary to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, London, in which the amount is stated at 5,417*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*

4. It also appeared on further examination, that the corresponding nominal roll, received with your Honourable Court's Despatch, No. 9 of 1858, shows the total amount due to the coolies to be 5,554*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*, while in the Despatch itself it is described as 5,389*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*

5. As there does not, therefore, appear to be any possibility of ascertaining the correct amount without a reference to the colonial authorities, we beg to submit the case for your Honourable Court's orders.

We have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Grant.*
J. Outram.
H. Ricketts.
B. Peacock.

Fort William, 20 May 1858.

From *C. T. Buckland*, Esquire, Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to *C. Beadon*, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, No. 470, dated Fort William, 24 April 1858.

Sir,

WITH reference to your office letter, No. 740, dated the 17th ultimo, and to the Despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, relative to the money savings deposited at the Colonial Treasury by the emigrants who have returned from Trinidad on the ship "Eveline," I am directed by the Lieutenant Governor to forward for the consideration and orders of the honourable the President in Council, a copy of the correspondence noted in the margin.*

2. On the urgent application of the Protector of Emigrants that the money due to the returned coolies might be disbursed to them without further delay, the Sub Treasurer was, on the 17th ultimo, requested to place at his disposal the sum of 5,417*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, or *Rs.* 54,177. 14. which was stated by the Protector to be the sum required to enable him to discharge the claims of the emigrants. But as the Honourable Court's Despatch, subsequently received, with your office letter, No. 740, only authorised the payment to those emigrants of 5,389*l.* 5*s.* 5*d*, the Protector was called upon to report on what calculation his application was made. Mr. Reddie reported that his calculation was founded upon a document supplied to him from the office of the Emigration Agent. The latter officer was therefore requested to explain the discrepancy, and he now reports that the document on which he relied is the nominal roll received by him from the Secretary to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, London, in which it is shown that the sums accruing to each emigrant amount in the aggregate to 5,417*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* On further examination, it appears that the corresponding nominal roll enclosed in the Despatch of the honourable Court, and forwarded to this office with your letter, No. 740, shows the total amount due to the coolies as *Rs.* 5,554. 3. 9., although in the Despatch giving cover to that nominal roll the amount is stated 5,389*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*

3. As there does not appear to be any possibility of ascertaining in this country which is the correct sum to be paid, the Lieutenant Governor would recommend that a reference on this point should be made to the colonial authorities; it appears, however, from the statement of the officiating Emigration Agent, that the coolies were perfectly satisfied with the amounts paid to them according to the nominal roll furnished by that officer, of which an attested copy is submitted.

From *John G. Reddie*, Esq., Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta, to *A. R. Young*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 5, dated Fort William, 5 March 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, the return emigrants per "Eveline," from Trinidad, have been detained in Calcutta under the following untoward and distressing circumstances:—

2. It appears this party paid their accumulated savings into the Colonial Treasury and received bills of exchange in lieu.

3. When on the eve of leaving Port O'Spain, the Emigration Agent took those documents from the people, for the purpose, as he explained to them, of insuring their safe arrival and delivery to them in Calcutta by the overland route.

4. No

* Letter from Protector of Emigrants, No. 5, dated the 5th March 1858. Letter to ditto, No. 390, dated the 12th March 1858. Letter to Sub Treasurer, No. 412, dated the 17th March 1858. Letter to Protector of Emigrants, No. 459, dated the 20th March 1858. Letter from ditto, No. 20, dated the 29th March 1858. Letter to Emigration Agent, No. 588, dated the 6th April 1858, Letter from ditto, No. 6, dated the 16th April 1858.

TRINIDAD.

4. No such advices have arrived, either to the care of this office, the emigration agency, or any of the local banks; nothing but a description with the sums accruing to each individual has been received, amounting to 5,417 *l.* 15 *s.* 9 *d.* or *Rs.* 54,177. 14. These circumstances would have been reported earlier, but I was in hopes this last mail would have brought the required papers. The people (including a party of Madras men) are almost destitute, very few having retained even a portion of their earnings.

5. Sickness, cholera, has broken out amongst them, and I have the honour to solicit your instructions, as it is most desirable some arrangement for payment of the sums due to the people should be made as speedily as possible, otherwise the interests of the colonies as regards emigrant labour from the port of India will be most seriously compromised.

From *C. T. Buckland*, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to *John G. Reddie*, Esq., Protector of Emigrants, No. 390, dated Fort William, 12 March 1858.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 5, dated the 5th instant, reporting that the emigrants returned from Trinidad per ship "Eveline," have been detained in Calcutta in consequence of the non-receipt of the bills of exchange granted to them by the Colonial Government on account of their money savings, which they paid into the Colonial Treasury, and recommending that some arrangements be speedily made for the payment of the sums due to the emigrants, as they are suffering great distress.

2. In reply I am desired to state that the Lieutenant Governor understands that the proper documents have since come to hand, and that it is therefore unnecessary to pass any orders on your letter under acknowledgment.

From *C. T. Buckland*, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to *J. I. Harvey*, Esq., Sub Treasurer, No. 412, dated Fort William, 17 March 1858.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor to forward a copy of a letter from the Protector of Emigrants, No. 5, dated the 5th instant, relative the emigrants returned from Trinidad in the ship "Eveline," and to request that you will be so good as to place at the disposal of the Protector, the sum of *Rs.* 54,177. 14., being the amount of the savings of the emigrants deposited by them in the Treasury at Trinidad, to enable that officer to pay the sums due to each emigrant.

2. The Accountant General to the Government of India will be requested to adopt measures in communication with you, for adjusting the advance in account with Her Majesty's Government.

No. 413.

COPY forwarded to the Accountant General to the Government of India, for information.

No. 414.

COPY forwarded to the Protector of Emigrants, for information, with reference to his letter, No. 5, dated the 5th instant.

From *C. T. Buckland*, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to *John G. Reddie*, Esq., Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta, No. 459, dated Fort William, 20 March 1858.

Sir,

General.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 5, dated the 5th instant, applying for an advance of 5,417 *l.* 15 *s.* or *Rs.* 54,177. 14., to enable you to discharge the claims of the emigrants who had returned by the ship "Eveline," from Trinidad, I am directed by the Lieutenant Governor to state, that the papers transmitted by the Government of India, which are forwarded in original for your perusal and return, authorise the payment of only 5,389 *l.* 5 *s.* 5 *d.* to these emigrants; and to request you will be good enough to explain on what calculation your application was made.

Letter from Under Secretary to Government of India, Home Department, No. 740, dated 17th March 1858, with two Enclosures.

From *John G. Reddie*, Esq., Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta, to *C. T. Buckland*, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 20, dated Fort William, 29 March 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 459, dated the 20th instant, with enclosures (herewith returned), and in reply to state, that my calculation was made from the nominal roll of emigrants having the sums due to each against their respective names, aggregating $24,726 = 80 at *Rs.* 2. 3. per dollar, or *Rs.* 54,089. 14. 6.

2. This

2. This was the only document forwarded to the Emigration Agent conveying information on the subject, and was borrowed from him to enable us to make the requisite calculation, and was returned to him to enable him to pay the people the sums accruing to them.

3. The delay in answering your request has arisen from his inability to spare the documents to us, as the people were impatient to leave Calcutta.

From *C. T. Buckland*, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Goverment of Bengal, to *C. Eales*, Esq., Officiating Emigration Agent, No. 586, dated Fort William, the 6th April 1858.

Sir,

I AM directed to forward to you the original correspondence noted in the margin,* relative to the money savings deposited at the Colonial Treasury by the emigrants who have returned from Trinidad on the ship "Eveline."

2. On the application of the Protector of Emigrants, the Sub-Treasurer was requested to place at his disposal the sum of 5,417*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, or *Rs.* 54,177, 14., to enable him to discharge the claims of the emigrants returned by the above-named vessel; but the papers since received from the Government of India authorised the payment to those emigrants of only 5,389 *l.* 5 *s.* 5 *d.*; the Protector was in consequence called upon to report on what calculation his application was originally made. Mr. Reddie now reports that his calculation was founded upon a document borrowed from your office. I am desired, therefore, to request that you will be so good as to explain the discrepancy above noticed, returning the original papers with your reply.

From *C. Eales*, Esq., Officiating Emigration Agent, to *C. T. Buckland*, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 6, dated Calcutta, the 16th April 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 586, of the 6th instant, with enclosures (herewith returned), and in reply thereto to state, that at the time the Protector's application was forwarded to you for the amount due to the coolies per "Eveline," the only document in my possession from which he procured the information was a nominal roll received from Mr. Walcott, Secretary to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, London, showing the several sums accruing to each emigrant, amounting in all to 5,417 *l.* 15 *s.* 9 *d.*

The Protector concurred with me in opinion as to the correctness of this sum, and accordingly based his application on it in the absence of any other document at the time.

The coolies were all paid their several sums according to this roll, and expressed themselves satisfied; which circumstance induces the belief that it is the most to be relied on.

On carefully comparing it with the one recently received with your letter, the difference of 136 *l.* 8 *s.* appears in favour of the latter, and many of the entries in both lists differ considerably from each other; for instance, in the roll from which the Protector's application was made, No. 218 (Ramshah) exhibits a sum of 22 *l.* 12 *s.* 6 *d.* due to him, whereas in the other roll it is made to appear that 221 *l.* 12 *s.* 6 *d.* is the amount due. These discrepancies render it somewhat difficult to arrive at a conclusion as to which of the three statements are correct. They stand at present thus:—

The nominal roll from which the Protector's application was grounded, 5,417 *l.* 15 *s.* 9 *d.*

The amount stated in the honourable the Court of Directors' Despatch, 5,389 *l.* 5 *s.* 5 *d.*

That in the roll submitted from the Bengal office, 5,554 *l.* 3 *s.* 9 *d.*

Of these, I submit respectfully that the first may be considered the most correct, the adjustment of the people's claims having been most satisfactorily concluded from it.

Enclosure 2, in No. 43.

Encl. 2, in No. 43.

Sir, Emigration Office, 26 August 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge Lord Carnarvon's letter of the 21st instant, enclosing communications from the India Board and Court of Directors respecting the payment of the savings of the return coolies by the "Eveline," from Trinidad.

2. The Governor of Trinidad, in reporting the departure of the "Eveline" from that Colony, also transmitted a Commissariat order for the coolies' savings, amounting to 5,389 *l.* 5 *s.* 5 *d.*, together with a nominal list of the emigrants, and a statement of the sum due to them. The nominal list was forwarded at once to the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, and the amount due on the Commissariat receipt was paid to the East India Company. It appears, however, that the total sum stated in the nominal list to be due to the coolies (5,417 *l.* 15 *s.* 9 *d.*) exceeded by 28 *l.* 10 *s.* 4 *d.*, the amount of the Commissariat order. This the Indian Government advanced, and its repayment is claimed in the letter now forwarded.

3. The

* Letter from Protector of Emigrants, No. 5, dated 5th March 1858.
Letter to Sub Treasurer, No. 412, dated 17th March 1858.
Letter from Under Secretary, Government of India, Home Department, No. 740, dated 17th March 1858, two Enclosures.
Letter to Protector of Emigrants, No. 459, dated 20th March 1858.
Letter from ditto, No. 20, dated 29th March 1858.

TRINIDAD.

3. The claim is of course well founded, and I would accordingly request Sir E. Bulwer Lytton's authority for paying 28*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* to the account of the East India Company with the Bank of England.

4. It would also be desirable to caution the authorities at Trinidad against the repetition of mistakes of this kind, especially as I see that a second nominal list appears to have reached the Court of Directors, which stated the total amount due to the coolies at 5,554*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*

5. I shall request the Emigration Agent at Calcutta to explain a small discrepancy between the sum of 5,417*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* obtained by him from the Indian Government, and the sum of 5,412*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*, which appears by his own nominal list (printed among the papers now under report) to have been due to the coolies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

— No. 44.—

No. 44.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart to Governor Keate, 17 Sept. 1858.

(No. 39.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 September 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 22d June last,* forwarding a report from the surgeon of the "Saladin," on the great mortality which had occurred amongst the coolie immigrants on board that ship on her passage from Calcutta to Trinidad.

* Page 341.

I transmit you for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial and and Emigration Commissioners, on the subject of the mortality which had ocurred on board the "Saladin," as well as on board the ships from Calcutta, together with a copy of a letter which I have caused to be addressed to the Secretary of State for India, calling attention to this mortality, and to the doubts which it must throw on the future prospects of emigration from Calcutta, unless the number of deaths can be largely reduced in the next season.

Vide page 176. 11 August 1858.
Vide page 179. 7 Sept. 1858.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *E B. Lytton.*

— No. 45. —

No. 45.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate, 28 Sept. 1858.

(No. 41.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing street, 28 September 1858.

I TRANSMIT for your information copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, with one from Mr. Eales, the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting that he had chartered three vessels for the conveyance of coolies to Trinidad.

23 Sept. 1858. Enclosure.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 45.

Enclosure in No. 45.

Sir, Emigration Office, 23 September 1858.

No. 29, 5 Aug. Sub-Enclosure.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for Sir E. Bulwer Lytton's information, and for transmission to the Governor of Trinidad, the copy of a letter from Mr. Eales, the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta; reporting the charter by him of three ships for the conveyance of coolies to Trinidad.

All these ships have been taken up for Trinidad, because the Government of that Colony signified their wishes to the Secretary of State some time earlier than the Government of British Guiana. The order for the British Guiana coolies cannot have reached Mr. Eales till the end of August.

2. I am informed by Mr. Caird, who has returned to England, that there is every probability of obtaining a large supply of labourers during the ensuing season for the West Indies, great numbers having been already dispatched to Mauritius.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 45. TRINIDAD.

(No. 29.)

Sir, Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 5 August 1858.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, having engaged the undermentioned ships at the rates specified for the conveyance of emigrants from hence to Trinidad :—

Ship "Edith Moore," at 10 *l.* per adult, to leave this about 1st September next; ship "Akbar," at 10 *l.* 10 *s.* per adult, to leave this about 15th September; ship "Themis," at 10 *l.* 10 *s.* per adult, to leave this about 2d of October.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Official Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.

— No. 46. —

(No. 46.)

No. 46. Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate, 30 Sept. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 30 September 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, making various suggestions for defining in future the duties of the several Emigration Agents in India. 6 Sept. 1858, *Vide* page 180.

I see no reason to object to any of these suggestions, but as it is not proposed that the new arrangements should take effect before the 1st of April next, I shall be glad to receive any observations you may wish to offer upon them, before a final decision shall be taken.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 47. —

(No. 50.)

No. 47. Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate, 14 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 October 1858.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin, with reports on the mortality that had occurred on board the "Salsette" coolie ship from Calcutta.

10 July, No. 99, page 343.
25 July, No. 108, page 347.
9 Aug., No. 115, page 351.

I transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject.

I have to request that you will cause the inquiries suggested by the Commissioners in the 18th paragraph of their letter to be made amongst the recently arrived coolies. 22 Sept. 1858, *Vide* page 182.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 48. —

(No. 55.)

No. 48. Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate, 23 October 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 23 October 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, together with copy of one from the Acting Emigration Agent at Madras, reporting the charter by him of the "Roman Emperor" for the conveyance of coolies to Trinidad, and adverting to other topics connected with coolie immigration. 11 October 1858, *Vide* page 186. 27 August 1858, *Vide* page 187.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

TRINIDAD.

— No. 49. —

No. 49.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate. November 1858.

(No. 56.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, November 1858.

I TRANSMIT, for your information, an extract from a letter from Mr. Eales, the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting favourably on the prospects of coolie immigration into the West Indies for the approaching season.

17 August 1858, Vide page 188.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 50. —

No. 50.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate, 9 Nov. 1858.

(No. 60.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 9 November 1858.

No. 100, 17 July 1858, p. 344.
No. 109, 4 Aug. 1858, p. 350.

WITH reference to your Despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin, I transmit to you the copy of a letter which I caused to be addressed to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, together with a copy of their Lordships' reply, authorising you to submit to the Council of Government the necessary estimate for making provision for the salaries and expenses of two Emigration Agents in India, with salaries of 1,200 *l.* per annum.

20 October 1858, Enclosure 1.
27 October 1858, Enclosure 2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. 1, in No. 50.

Enclosure 1, in No. 50.

Sir, Downing-street, 20 October 1858.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. B. Lytton to transmit to you copies of two resolutions* passed by the Council of Trinidad, for the appointment, in accordance with the sanction to such an arrangement given by Lord Stanley, of two Emigration Agents in India, to act solely on behalf of that Colony, with salaries of 1,200 *l.* a year each, besides the expenses of their journey to their several stations, and of their return to Trinidad, in case of their being recalled.

* *Vide* page 346.

Sir E. Lytton has confirmed the Governor's selection of two gentlemen for these appointments, one to be stationed at Calcutta, the other at Madras; and he proposes, with the concurrence of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, to authorise the Governor to submit the necessary estimate to the Council, for making provision for their salaries, and other necessary expenses connected with this service.

I am, &c.
Sir C. Trevelyan, K.C.B. (signed) *H. Merivale.*

Encl. 2, in No. 50.

Enclosure 2, in No. 50.

Sir, Treasury Chambers, 27 October 1858.

WITH reference to your letter of the 20th instant, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to acquaint you that my Lords concur in Sir E. B. Lytton's proposal, to authorise the Governor of Trinidad to submit the necessary estimate to the Council, for making provision for the salaries and expenses of two Emigration Agents in India, with salaries of 1,200 *l.* a year each.

I am, &c.
H. Merivale, Esq., &c. &c. &c. (signed) *C. Trevelyan.*

(No. 61.)

No. 51.

Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate, 11 Nov. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 11 November 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information and guidance, a copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners, with two letters from Mr. Eales, the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, stating the progress made in the shipment of coolies to Trinidad. 22 October 1858, Enclosure.

With reference to the promise made by Mr. Eales to the Topasses who embarked on board the "Edith Moore," I have to request that you will furnish these people with passages to India by the first opportunity, in case they have conducted themselves properly.

You will have the goodness to ascertain and forward to me the information called for in the last paragraph of the Commissioners' report.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure in No. 51.

Encl. in No. 51.

Sir, Emigration Office, 22 October 1858.

WE beg to enclose, for the information of Secretary Sir E. Bulwer Lytton and for transmission to the Governor of Trinidad, copies of two letters from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, in which he reports the charter by him of the ships "Hanover" and "Latona," for the conveyance of coolies to Trinidad, and the departure from Calcutta of the "Edith Moore" for the same destination, with 407 souls, equal to 375 adults. No. 32, 8 Sept. Sub-Enclosure 1. 7 September, Sub-Enclosure 2.

2. It will be observed by Mr. Eales' letter of the 7th September, that he had promised the Topasses who embarked in the "Edith Moore" free return passages, provided their conduct during the voyage met with the approval of the surgeon of the ship. We would suggest that Governor Keate's attention should be specially drawn to this promise, and that he should be directed to furnish these people with passages to India by the first opportunity, in case they have conducted themselves properly.

3. As there will probably be very few return coolie ships for the few next years, from Trinidad, it will be requisite, in case any more Topasses are sent on these terms, either to explain to them that they will probably have to remain some years in the Colony (to which they will probably not consent), or to make special arrangements for sending them back to India. It would be desirable to ascertain from the Governor whether, having regard to the extreme importance of preserving cleanliness and enforcing discipline, the value of these persons' services justifies their engagement under either of these conditions.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 51.

(No. 32 of 1858.)

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
8 September 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, having engaged the under-mentioned ships at the rates specified, for the conveyance of emigrants from hence to Trinidad.

2. I have also to announce the arrival here of the ship "Sir George Pollock," with 100 adult coolies from Jamaica, full particulars will be furnished by the next mail.

Ship "Hanover," at 10*l.* per each adult, to leave this about the middle of October.

Ship "Latona," at 10*l.* per each adult, to leave this about the middle of November.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 51.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
7 September 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having despatched on the 1st instant the ship "Edith Moore" to Trinidad, with the under-mentioned number of emigrants.

2. Copy of a charter-party, together with the surgeon's certificate of health of the above vessel, is herewith enclosed.

TRINIDAD.

3. The Topasses, who proceeded in the vessel, appeared to be desirable men for the duties required—one of them named Jones bore a high character for usefulness from the surgeon of the "Eveline," on her passage with return emigrants from Trinidad, and I was glad to secure his services again on the present occasion, having also been a resident some time in Trinidad. As a stimulus to good conduct on the voyage, I was induced to accede to their request in recommending their being provided with a free return passage at the expense of the Colony, in the first return ship with coolies, provided the surgeon of the "Edith Moore" was satisfied with their behaviour on the voyage. I therefore beg the favour of your conveying the necessary instructions on the subject to the emigration authorities at Trinidad.

257 Males; 92 females; 33 boys; 19 girls; 6 infants.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 52. —

(No. 62.)

No. 52.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate.
16 Nov. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 November 1858.

8 Nov. 1858, Enclosure.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, with copies of two letters from the Acting Emigration Agents at Calcutta and Madras, reporting the departure of the ships "Akbar" and "Roman Emperor," with coolie immigrants for Trinidad, and the charter of the "Hope" (at Madras) for the same destination.

I have to request that you will, in accordance with the suggestion contained in the last paragraph of the Commissioners' report, take the necessary steps for transmitting to them the sum of 5,000*l.* to meet their liabilities on account of emigration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 52.

Enclosure in No. 52.

Sir, Emigration Office, 8 November 1858.

Sub-Enclosure 1, 18 September.

WE have the honour to enclose, for Sir E. Bulwer Lytton's information, and for transmission to the Governor of Trinidad, copies of two letters which we have received from the Acting Emigration Agents at Calcutta and Madras, reporting the departure of the coolie ships "Akbar," with 374 from the former, and the "Roman Emperor," with 382 souls from the latter port for Trinidad; and the charter of another ship (the "Hope") at Madras for the same destination, at 7*l.* 9*s.* per adult.

Sub-Enclosure 2, 28 September.

2. The late period at which the orders from British Guiana and Jamaica have reached us, have caused the Emigration Agents in India to charter all the ships of the first 10 weeks of the season for Trinidad; and the consequence will be that, unless we can accomplish a modification of arrangements made in this Country, that colony is likely to receive even a larger number of emigrants than have been ordered, ten ships having been already chartered. This circumstance should be pointed out to the Governor, in order that he may not fail to make the necessary financial arrangements for paying the freights as they fall due.

3. The balance in our own hands, on account of Trinidad, is only 2,100*l.*, of which, however, 1,600*l.* will be wanted to defray the Indian expenses of last season, leaving only 500*l.* available for the expenses of this year.

4. The sums which may be expected to become payable under the arrangements for this year, may be roughly stated as follows:

	£.
Return Coolie Ship "Morayshire" - - - -	4,000
Mr. Warner's expenses at Madras—say - - - -	1,000
3,000 Coolies - - - - - - - -	6,000
	11,000
Deduct - - - -	500
	£. 10,500

5. In order to meet these liabilities, it would probably be expedient that 5,000*l.* should be transmitted, so as to reach us in the course of February next.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 52.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
18 September 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honor to state, for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having despatched on the 16th instant the ship "Akbar" to Trinidad, with the under-mentioned number of emigrants;

220 Males; 78 females; 29 boys; 19 girls; 18 infants.

Copy of a charter-party together with the surgeon's certificate of health of the above vessel, is herewith enclosed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales*,
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No 52.

Colonial Immigration Office, Madras,
28 September 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I despatched the ship "Roman Emperor" on the 11th instant, with the emigrants as per margin, and that I have a further number in the depôt of 249½, which I hope to despatch about the 10th proximo, for which purpose I have chartered the ship "Hope," Captain G. Forster at 7 *l.* 9*s.* I have also procured the services of Dr. J. Bower, R.N., to proceed in charge of them.

Men -	- 198
Women	- 110
Boys -	- 32
Girls -	- 34
Infants	- 8

2. I have the honour to forward herewith charter-parties of the two ships, together with copies of the contracts already entered into for clothing and feeding in depôt.

3. As the emigrants appear to be coming in, I hope to send another vessel in the course of the following month.

(signed) *H. Burton*,
Acting Colonial Agent.

— No. 53. —

(No. 65.)

No. 53.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate, 17 Nov. 1858.
* Page 353.
† *Vide* Appendix, No. 26, p. 566.
No. 17 of 1858.
28 October, Enclosure.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 17 November 1858.

WITH reference to your Despatch, No. 126, * of the 22d September last, forwarding an Ordinance passed by yourself and the Council of Government, intitled, "An Ordinance for raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the year 1859."†

I transmit, for your information and guidance, the copy of a report from the Emigration Commissioners. I have to convey to you Her Majesty's confirmation and allowance of this Ordinance.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 53.

Enclosure in No. 53.

Sir,

Emigration Office, 28 October 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 21st instant, enclosing a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, with an authorised copy of an Ordinance "for raising funds in aid of immigration for the year 1859."

No. 17 of 1858.

2. This Ordinance raises the indenture fee on immigrants imported during the coming season from 2 *l.* to 4 *l.* 10 *s.*, subject to the condition that 2*l.* 10 *s.* shall be refunded unless the number of immigrants exceeds 2,200 adult persons.

3. We do not clearly understand whether, in calculating the number of 2,200 adult persons, children are to be included at the rate of two for every adult (being the rate at which their passages are paid for) or whether 2,200 persons above the age of 10 years must be imported.

4. It would be desirable in some way or other to settle this point before the question is raised.

5. Meantime, however, we conceive that the Ordinance may properly be sanctioned.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

TRINIDAD.

— No. 54. —

No. 54.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., to Governor Keate, 27 Nov. 1858.

(No. 68.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keaté*.

Sir, Downing-street, 27 November 1858.

19 Nov. 1858. Enclosure.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, with one from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting the departure of the ship "Hanover" with coolie immigrants for Trinidad.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 54.

Enclosure in No. 54.

Sir, Emigration Office, 19 November 1858.

6 October. Sub-Enclosure.

WE enclose, for the information of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, and for transmission to the Governor of Trinidad, the copy of a letter from Mr. Eales, reporting the departure of the coolie ship "Hanover" from Calcutta, with 388 souls on board for that Colony.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

T. F. Elliot, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 54.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
6 October 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having this day despatched the ship "Hanover" to Trinidad, with the under-mentioned number of emigrants:

222 males; 109 females; 28 boys; 10 girls; 19 infants.

Copy of a charter-party, together with the surgeon's certificate of the health of the above vessel, is herewith enclosed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 55. —

No. 55.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., to Governor Keate. 29 Nov. 1858.

(No. 72.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 November 1858.

* Page 365.

IN reply to your Despatch, No. 136,* of the 6th ultimo, in which you informed me that Mr. Johnston proposed taking his departure for India by the first packet of this month, and in which you suggested that Mr. Warner should receive instructions to proceed from Madras to Calcutta to await Mr. Johnston's arrival there, I transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, to whom I caused a copy of your Despatch to be referred.

16 Nov. 1858. Enclosure.

I have at the same time to state, that the Commissioners have been informed of my approval of the letter which they propose addressing to Mr. Warner, suggesting that he should not proceed to Calcutta.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 55.

Enclosure in No. 55.

Sir, Emigration Office, 16 November 1858.

WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 12th instant, enclosing the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad, in which he suggests that Mr. Warner (who left England for Madras on the 7th ultimo), should proceed to Calcutta to prepare the ground for Mr. Johnston.

TRINIDAD.

Sub-Enclosure.

2. As Trinidad will probably receive the full number of coolies which the Colonial Government have ordered for this year, it seems unnecessary to incur the expense of sending Mr. Warner on to Calcutta, and we therefore propose (unless we should receive contrary directions from Sir E. Bulwer Lytton), to address to him the letter of which a copy is enclosed. If Sir E. B. Lytton should approve this course, Mr. Keate should, we presume, be so informed.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch,*
Frederic Rogers.

J. J. Elliot, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 55.

Sir, Emigration Office, November 1858.

I AM directed by the Emigration Commissioners to enclose for your information the copy of a Despatch which has been addressed by the Governor of Trinidad to the Secretary of State.

When that Despatch was written, Mr. Keate could not have been aware that without any interposition on your part or that of Mr. Johnston, the Colony was likely to receive during the present season the full number of emigrants which had been ordered. This being the case, it appears to the Commissioners that it would be unnecessary that you should proceed to Calcutta.

I annex a list of the ships which are to take coolies from Calcutta, so far as they have yet been notified to the Commissioners, in case, from any accident, that information should not have been communicated to you. I am to add, however, that the last on the list (the "Plantagenet") may possibly be directed to British Guiana.

I have, &c.
S. Walcott, Secretary.

Thornton Warner, Esq.,
Care of H. Burton, Esq.,
Emigration Agent, Madras.

LIST of Ships taken up in England and India for the Conveyance of Coolies from CALCUTTA to the WEST INDIES.

NAME OF SHIP.	Colony to which Ship is to proceed.	Number Embarked, so far as yet known
Chimera	Guiana.	
Ellenborough	ditto.	
Dudbrook	Trinidad.	
John Duncan	ditto.	
Edith Moore	ditto	407
Akbar	ditto	364
Themis	ditto.	
Hanover	ditto.	
Latonia	ditto.	
Plantagenet	ditto.	

— No. 56. —

(No. 80.)

No. 56.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., to Governor Keate.
17 Dec. 1858.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton,* Bart., to Governor *Keate.*

23 Nov. 1858. Enclosure.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 December 1858.

I TRANSMIT to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copy of one from the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, respecting the engagement of Mr. Greene as surgeon on board the Trinidad coolie ship "Hanover."

I have to convey to you my authority for paying Mr. Greene at the rate of 12 *s.* a head on each immigrant landed alive.

I have authorised the Commissioners to calculate the remuneration of the surgeons employed on board the Australian and West India immigration ships according to the scale recommended in their letter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

TRINIDAD.

Encl. in No. 56.

7 October. Sub-Enclosure.

Enclosure in No. 56.

Sir, Emigration Office, 23 November 1858.

WE enclose the copy of a letter which we have received from the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, respecting the engagement of Mr. Greene, who has served under us as surgeon superintendent in four Australian emigrant ships, to take charge of the coolie ship "Hanover."

2. The rate of payment in the Australian voyage (provided of course the surgeon discharges his duty satisfactorily) is for the—

1st and 2d voyages	10 *s.* a head.
3d and 4th voyages	12 *s.* „
5th and 6th voyages	14 *s.* „

and so on, till it reaches the maximum of 1 *l.* a head on all emigrants landed alive.

3. The payment in coolie ships in regard to which the voyage is almost as long, the duties more disagreeable, but the difficulty and the responsibility in some respects less, is—

10 *s.* for the first voyage.
11 *s.* for the second.
12 *s.* for the third and subsequent voyages.

4. As, however, it is of great importance at present to procure effective medical superintendence in these ships, and as one of the means of effecting this will be to obtain the services of surgeons of Australian emigrant ships returning home *viâ* Calcutta, it would be, we think, very advantageous to place the two services more nearly on a footing, at least as regards the first few voyages.

5. We would therefore suggest that, for the purpose of calculating the remuneration of surgeons, these two services should be viewed as one, and that this Board, or the emigration or Immigration Agents, should be allowed to engage surgeons, whether in taking British emigrants to Australia, or Indian emigrants between the East and West Indies, at the following rates, provided, of course, that their duties are discharged to the satisfaction of the authorities:—

For the 1st and 2d voyages	10 *s.*
3d and 4th „	12 *s.*
5th and 6th „	14 *s.*
7th and 8th „	16 *s.*

6. In regard to West Indian emigration, we would propose that 16 *s.* a head should be the maximum rate of remuneration. But with regard to Australian emigration, for which it would be desirable to retain the surgeons of most tact and experience, the increase should go on as at present, viz.:

For the 7th and 8th voyages	16 *s.*
9th and 10th „	18 *s.*
11th, 12th and subsequent voyages	20 *s.*

a head on all emigrants landed alive.

7. As Mr. Greene appears to have performed four voyages creditably in our service, we would suggest that the Governor of Trinidad should be authorized to pay him at the rate of 12 *s.* a head.

8. In communicating this decision to the Governors of the West Indian Colonies, it would be desirable to point out that in the case of every coolie ship, a special statement will be required of the good or bad conduct of the surgeon, and this whether he is paid in the Colony or not.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

S. F. Elliot, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 56.

Sir, Emigration Agents' Office, Calcutta, 7 October 1858.

I HAVE the honour to enclose in original a letter from Dr. Greene, of the Australian emigration service, who has recently been appointed to the medical charge of emigrants per "Hanover" to Trinidad.

On receiving this officer's application for employment, he informed me of his previous servitude of some years in the Australian branch of the service, a circumstance which, I conceive, will plead in favour of his obtaining the higher rate of gratuity payable to old employees in the Colonial Emigration service, in accordance with the established practice which obtains in the colonies.

The terms of Dr. Greene's present engagement (copy of which has been furnished to the authorities at Trinidad) stipulates that he should receive four rupees per caput on each coolie landed alive in the Colony. He suggested, however, in consideration of previous service, to be allowed the enhanced rate of remuneration sanctioned. I did not accede to his request, but assured him that the matter should form the subject of a reference to the Board of Commissioners for their final decision.

Dr. Greene further intimated, that the conditions of his prior engagement with the Commissioners

missioners necessitated a return to England within a given period, to secure to him a stipulated sum for return passage; and my motive for alluding to the circumstance is to solicit, that in the event of his stay in the West Indies being prolonged beyond reasonable expectation, his claim may not be affected by it.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Sir, 23, Theatre Road, Calcutta, 4 October 1858.

In accepting your appointment as surgeon to ship "Hanover," with coolies to Trinidad, I beg respectfully to state, that I have for the last four years had charge of emigrants to Australia, and in each case obtained a first-class certificate, without faults or complaint whatever. I trust, therefore, that in the same emigration service, though not to Australia, you will kindly recommend me for the usual increased pay for continued service in charge of coolies. And as the Emigration Board in England allow 60 *l.* for part payment of passage home if made within nine months, should my duties detain me beyond that period, may I hope you will recommend that I do not incur the loss.

And apologizing for the trouble the above requests may occasion,

Believe me, &c.
(signed) *J. W. Greene.*

Captain C. Eales,
&c. &c.

— No. 57. —

(No. 82.)

No. 57.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., to Governor Keate.
23 Dec. 1858.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate.*

Sir, Downing-street, 23 December 1858.

I transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, with one from the Acting Emigration Agent at Madras, reporting the progress made in the despatch of coolies to Trinidad.

9 Dec. 1858. *Vide* page 194.

You will, in accordance with the suggestion of the Commissioners, make due provision for the payment of the freights of the ships taken up, and take all necessary steps for the location and allotment of the coolies upon their arrival.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

— No. 58. —

(No. 89.)

No. 58.
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., to Governor Keate.
29 Dec. 1858.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate.*

Sir, Downing-street, 29 December 1858.

I transmit to you, for your information and guidance, an extract from a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copy of one from the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting that, under the authority of the Indian Government, certain modifications had been introduced in the system of emigration from that port which would involve some additional expense in respect of the ships proceeding to British Guiana and Trinidad.

23 Dec. 1858. *Vide* page 197.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Governor Keate.

— No. 59. —

(No. 90.)

No. 59
Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate,
30 Dec. 1858.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate.*

Sir, Downing-street, 30 December 1858.

I transmit to you, for your information and guidance, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, reporting the departure of the coolie ship "Themis" from Calcutta for Trinidad, with 394 souls.

Enclosure.

You will perceive that a deduction will have to be made from the gratuity to be paid to the surgeon, and that a certain sum will have to be paid for additional medicines placed on board.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

TRINIDAD.

Encl. in No. 59.

Enclosure in No. 59.

Sir, Emigration Office, 28 December 1858.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for Sir E. Bulwer Lytton's information, and for transmission to the Governor of Trinidad, the copy of a letter from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, reporting the departure from that port of the coolie ship "Themis" for Trinidad with 394 souls, equal to 350½ statute adults.

27 October. Enclosure.

2. I would suggest that Mr. Keate's attention should be directed to the last paragraph of Mr. Eales' letter to the surgeon of the ship, respecting the deduction to be made from his gratuity on account of advances made to him in Calcutta.

3. I also enclose a further letter from Mr. Eales, on the subject of some additional medicines placed on board the "Themis" by order of the medical examiner at Calcutta. I would suggest that this letter and its enclosure should also be communicated to the Governor, with a view to the liquidation of the amount when the freight is paid.

I have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq., C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*

Sub-Enclosure.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta, 27 October 1858.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Emigration Commissioners, having this day despatched the ship "Themis" to Trinidad with the under-mentioned number of emigrants: 230 males; 95 females; 27 boys; 24 girls; 18 infants.

Copy of a charter-party, together with the surgeon's certificate of health of the above vessel, is herewith enclosed.

I have, &c.

S. Walcott, Esq., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *C. Eales,* Officiating Emigration Agent.

— No. 60. —

No. 60. Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart. to Governor Keate, 17 Jan. 1859.

* Page 366.

(No. 95.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *E. B. Lytton*, Bart., to Governor *Keate*.

Sir, Downing-street, 17 January 1859.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 21st October last, No.* 145, in regard to the remittance of the savings of the coolies who returned to Calcutta, in the ship "Eveline," and I transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject.

7 January 1859. Enclosure.

I have, &c.,

(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Encl. in No. 60.

Enclosure in No. 60.

Sir, Emigration Office, 7 January 1859.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of 13th ultimo, enclosing a Despatch from the Governor of Trinidad in regard to the remittance of the savings of the coolies who returned from Trinidad to Calcutta in the ship "Eveline."

2. In respect to the discrepancy between the amount of the bill remitted, the amount stated to be due in the list sent to Calcutta, and the amount on the descriptive roll stated to have been actually issued to the coolies in Calcutta, we have written to Mr. Eales, and have requested him to furnish us with an explanation. It would only increase the confusion, if I were to attempt, out of the materials furnished by the Governor's Despatch, to anticipate that explanation.

3. In regard to the delay which occurred in forwarding to Calcutta the necessary instructions for the payment of these people, I find that the Governor's Despatch enclosing the Commissariat receipt was transmitted to us in your letter of 9th November 1857, and was returned in our report of 14th of the same month, in order that it might be forwarded to the Treasury.

I have, &c.,

Herman Merivale, Esq., C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*

APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

COPY of CIRCULAR DESPATCH to the Governors of *Grenada, St. Lucia, Trinidad, British Guiana*, and *Mauritius*. Appendix, No. 1.

Sir, Downing-street, 5 September 1857:

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners, enclosing copies of two letters from Mr. Franklin, the Emigration Agent at Madras, relative to the establishment of the Emigration depôt at Madras, on the same system as at Calcutta, and also to the increase of the salaries of the officers connected therewith, consequent on the commencement of West Indian emigration. *10 August 1857. Enclosure.*

I have to acquaint you that I have sanctioned the arrangements made by Mr. Franklin for the establishment of the depôt, and have consented to the increase of the salaries suggested by that gentleman, which is to date, however, from the reopening of emigration to Mauritius, and not from the opening of that to the West Indies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in Appendix, No. 1.

Sir, Emigration Office, 19 August 1857.

IN July 1856, we received a letter from Messrs. Seal & Oliver, employed in the Emigration Office, at Madras, praying that, on account of the commencement of West Indian emigration, and the consequent increase of their duties, their salaries might be increased.

2. This petition we referred to the Emigration Agent, for his report, requesting particularly to be informed whether the addition to the duties of these gentlemen would furnish them with more to do than they could reasonably be expected to perform at their present salaries.

3. In his letter of the 27th of September 1856, Mr. Thomson recommended the establishment of an emigration depôt at Madras, like that which already exists at Calcutta.

4. Feeling little doubt of the propriety of this suggestion, we obtained, and transmitted to Mr. Franklin, Mr. Labouchere's approval of it; but we requested Mr. Franklin to communicate to us his own opinion on the subject, the probable cost of the depôt, and the mode in which he proposed to regulate it.

5. That gentleman has communicated with Mr. Caird, and has now reported both with regard to the clerk's salaries, and with regard to the depôt. It appears from his letters, of which I enclose copies, that the expense of keeping the coolies till placed on board the emigrant ship has hitherto fallen on the Native Collector, who has been paid by a bounty varying from *Rs.* 4. 12 *a.* to six rupees a head on the emigrants actually embarked. Under this system, desertions were very numerous and very inconvenient; and Mr. Franklin, after communication with Mr. Caird, has at once adopted the Calcutta system with regard to the Mauritius emigration now in progress, and anticipates from it the following advantages: *21 February. Sub-Enclosure 1.* *6 June. Sub-Enclosure 2.*

1. Natives will not generally enter the depôt unless they have some *bonâ fide* intention to emigrate, of which, therefore, the depôt is some test.

2. The emigrants will be better housed and fed, and will not be able to spend their daily allowance (which the Collector usually makes them in money) upon intoxicating liquor.

3. Disease will be less likely to escape observation.

4. The depôt plan (Mr. Franklin thinks) will be cheaper.

6. I collect that Mr. Franklin is satisfied with the working of the new plan, as far as it has gone.

Appendix, No. 1.

7. With regard to the clerks he states that they are not, on the whole, overworked, but are certainly underpaid, receiving "less in proportion than men of similar position obtain in Government and in most private offices." The establishment of a depôt will increase their duties, and will also render necessary some increase of the native staff. He proposes, therefore, a revised establishment and scale of pay, which will raise the total expense from *Rs.* 143. 8 *a.* to 288 rupees a month, or from about 171 *l.* to 345 *l.* a year. The salary of the manager and interpreter (Mr. Seal) will be increased from 48 *l.* to 96 *l.*, and that of the apothecary and superintendent (Mr. Holmes) from 60 *l.* to 108 *l.* per annum.

21 February, paras. 3, 4, 5 and 8. 6 June, paras. 8 and 9.

8. The details of the change are exhibited in the table attached to Mr. Franklin's letter, and the duties of Mr. Seal and Mr. Holmes are explained in his letters of the 21st of February and the 6th of June.

9. Mr. Franklin further requests that the increased salaries may be drawn from the 26th of January 1856, at which period the West India emigration commenced. And he proposes that the expense of each ship should be paid by the Colony to which it is sent, but that of the establishment by the different colonies in proportion to the number of emigrants which each receives.

10. I see no reason to doubt that Mr. Franklin has acted with judgment in the establishment of a depôt, nor does the proposed establishment seem unduly expensive. I would suggest, therefore, that in both these respects his plan might be approved. But as during a large portion of the last 12 months Mauritius emigration has been wholly suspended, and during the whole 20 months for which it is proposed to award back pay to the clerks, only three ships were dispatched to the West Indies, I see no reason why the increased salaries of the clerks should commence from January 1856. They might perhaps be allowed, with propriety, to commence from the recent re-opening of Mauritius emigration in April or May last.

11. The proposed apportionment of expenses requires, however, one modification. It has been already decided that Mr. Franklin should receive a fixed salary of 200 *l.* from the West Indies for the coming season, retaining his previous salary from Mauritius. This arrangement it would seem inexpedient to unsettle. In other respects the mode of apportionment which he suggests, and which is in force at Calcutta, should, I apprehend, be adopted.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

T. F. Elliot, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

To *S. Walcott*, Esq., Secretary to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, London.

Colonial Emigration Office, Madras,
21 February 1857.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 23d July last, 3229½, which appears not to have been replied to, enclosing petitions from Messrs. Seal and Oliver, chief and second clerk in my office, for increase of salary, in consideration of the recommencement of emigration to the West Indies, I have the honour to state that the duties of the office are at times laborious, but that they are not more than can be accomplished by those forming the establishment which is noted in the margin,* with the pay of each grade.

2. The clerks are certainly underpaid; they receive less in proportion than men of similar position obtain in Government or most private offices. But although I am ready to admit this, I view as highly insubordinate the appeal to the Commissioners direct, instead of submitting their application to the usual official manner through the agent. They inform me that Mr. Thomson directed them, or gave them leave to do so, but he denies it.

3. The duty of the chief clerk is to be responsible for the due entry of all letters received and dispatched, and of all receipts and disbursements of money, and to keep the account currents of the Mauritius and West India agency, which are made out separately. On individuals presenting themselves as candidates for emigration, he assists the agent in examining them, and ascertaining that no undue influence has been exerted to bring them from their homes, and that they comprehend the terms under which they are about to emigrate. Mr. Seal has a good colloquial knowledge of Tamil, Canarese, and Hindoostanee, and is therefore peculiarly qualified in this respect for his duties.

4. The agent records the names of those people he resolves to take, and it is then the duty of the chief clerk to register them in the Depôt Register Book, with full particulars of their parents, country, height, &c.; a course which not only enables the department to trace any one sought for, but to detect any imposition on the day of embarkation, when occasionally it is attempted to substitute one person for another.

5. On

* Mr. J. R. Seal, 40 rupees; Mr. J. G. Oliver, 20 rupees; Mr. S. G. Stutz, apothecary, 50 rupees; M. Yagapah, 10 rupees.

5. On the day of embarkation the people are again brought to the office, re-examined, and re-registered for shipment before police authorities. It is the chief clerk's duty to write out this register, which is kept in the office records.

6. These duties, with that of the general supervision over the office, require a fair amount of exertion and intelligence, and, as I before observed, are deserving of higher salary than Mr. Seal receives, the more particularly now that the West Indian colonies are also to be supplied from Madras; but as I am in communication with Mr. Caird on the subject of a depôt, it would be premature to submit any recommendation for the approval of the Commissioners until I am in a position to furnish a comprehensive statement of the modifications I would propose for adoption.

7. The duties of Mr. Oliver and of Yagapah Chetty are those simply of clerks; still, as their salaries are very low, I should propose, when submitting my future report on the subject, a moderate increase.

8. Mr. Stutz's task, as apothecary, is to examine the candidates professionally on their first presenting themselves; to visit daily the depôts, muster the registered emigrants, and if any are sick, more particularly with bowel complaints, which if unattended to are likely to induce cholera, to send them to hospital; and on shipping day to assist in the final examination of the people, made on behalf of the Madras Government. His duties are increased by the West India emigration, and his salary might proportionately be raised.

9. When submitting my final recommendations on these points, it will be for the Commissioners to consider whether the disbursements on account of the establishment of the colonial emigration agency should not be apportioned equitably to those colonies for the benefit of which the duties are performed. The fairest way would, perhaps, be for the salary of the agent and others employed, together with office rent and any other minor expenses common to the general management of the agency, to be divided at the close of every year, and debited to each colony in proportion to the number of emigrants shipped to it during the period. The particular expenses incurred for each ship would of course form a charge on the colony to which it was dispatched.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Franklin,*
Colonial Emigration Agent.

Sub-Enclosure 2.

To *S. Walcott,* Esq., Seretary to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, London.

Sir, Colonial Emigration Office, Madras, 6 June 1857.

1. REFERRING to my letter of the 21st February last, No. 29, I have now the honour to request the favour of your laying before the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners the following recommendation regarding the remodelling of the Colonial Emigration Establishment at Madras.

2. Till the present season, it has been the custom to pay a fixed sum, varying from 4 rupees 12 annas to 6½ rupees, to a sort of middleman, for each adult emigrant embarked, this sum having been in consideration of the expenses and trouble of collecting the people and feeding them till they are sent on board ship. The emigrants were kept in places provided by the middleman, who was at the risk of all loss arising from those who deserted prior to embarkation, which occasionally formed a heavy item. I reported, in 2d paragraph of my letter of 10th February last, No. 27, that no less than 168 desertions took place from the parties who had been registered to proceed to Demerara in the "Stamboul." Many of these had been supported for more than two months by the middlemen, whose losses were consequently great.

3. But, besides this, the uncertainty of being able to provide a ship with her chartered complement places the agent in a difficult position. The middlemen, whom we term contractors or head maistries, may have 400 registered in the books of the agency as ready to embark; the ship is prepared to receive them by a certain day, and it is found that 100 or 150 have absented themselves the night previous. The vessel must then either sail without her full number and be paid forfeit, or she must be detained on demurrage.

4. This inconvenience attracted my attention before illness obliged me to seek change of climate in 1855, and on my return, I communicated with Mr. Caird, with the view of ascertaining how his depôt system worked at Calcutta, resolving, if advisable, to establish similar arrangements at Madras.

5. The result of our intercommunication has been that I have adopted his system, and have formed a depôt, paid and entirely under the control of servants in the employ of the agency. In this depôt the emigrants are lodged, fed, and medically attended, and although at first they stoutly refused to submit to the change and left me in a body, they soon after returned, and are now quietly located in the place assigned for them.

Appendix, No. 1.

6. The advantages of the new system are manifold:—

1st. The emigrants are directly under the eye and supervision of the agent, who has a better opportunity of judging whether they are really persons likely to embark. Many men will be ready, without any intention of emigrating, to appear at a fixed hour each day to receive a certain money allowance wherewith to provide food for the day; but few such will submit to settle down in the depôt, eat our food, and conform to our rules. The result of the last embarkation for the Mauritius fully confirms this opinion.

2d. In a Government depôt the emigrants are better housed and fed, and their food better cooked. Instead of spending their daily batta money in intoxicating liquors, which many did, they receive a due proportion of proper nutriment. The probabilities are, therefore, that they embark in better condition.

3d. The men being under the eye of the apothecary of the agency, who musters and examines them every day, and who is placed in charge of the depôt, are professionally attended to as soon as necessity exists for treatment. Before, it was the interest of the middleman to conceal all sickness among his emigrants, as this might delay their embarkation, and thus impose on him the cost of a few days' extra subsistence. There is, therefore, every likelihood of any incipient epidemic disease being encountered at its outset, and its spread prevented.

4th. Added to these advantages, which are, I think, sufficient to prove the superiority of the Government depôt system, I believe that the expense of despatching emigrants will thereby be lessened. Much, of course, depends on the seasons, and the amount of labour in demand in the country. Indians like their homes as well as people of other countries; they are not enterprising like Europeans, and have a rooted dislike to change, even for their own benefit; and will not emigrate to any distance unless they find a difficulty in procuring the necessaries of life here.

7. Having now explained the system and its advantages, I will proceed to the measures I would propose for the remuneration of my establishment.

8. Mr. Seal, the head clerk, is now in the receipt of a salary of 40 rupees a month. This is not commensurate with the services which have been required of him, and which services will be increased by the establishment of the Government depôt, for he will now have to check the provisions and the various contingent accounts connected therewith. I propose that his salary be increased to 60 rupees a month, with an additional allowance of 20 rupees a month for his services as interpreter.

9. The apothecary's duties are very onerous. He professionally examines every individual before registry, musters and examines them again every day, and is superintendent of the depôt. On embarkation day he also re-examines the emigrants, in conjunction with the emigration surgeon appointed by the Madras Government, to see that no persons are embarked who are physically unfit for work. He at present receives 50 rupees a month. I propose that this should be raised to 75 rupees, with house rent of 15 rupees a month, when quarters cannot be found for him in the depôt, which is at present the case.

10. Mr. Oliver's salary I would propose to raise to 30 rupees, and Yagapah Chetty's to 17½ rupees.

11. The additions already made, in consequence of the depôt being entirely in my hands, are as follow:

One head man to be paid 1½ annas (in English money 2½ *d.*), on each statute adult embarked. His duties are to keep the men together in the depôt, and to enforce order and regularity under the superintendent.

Two native clerks at 12 rupees a month each, to keep the native register books and provision account books.

Two peons at six rupees a month each.

One scavenger at four rupees.

12. To enable the Commissioners to understand at one view the alterations I propose, I have appended a Table showing the present establishment and that; but, as I before remarked, in para 2, I fully anticipate that the expenditure under the new arrangements will be less than before.

13. Should the Commissioners acquiesce in the arrangements herein proposed, I would solicit permission for Mr. Seal and the clerks to be allowed to draw their increased rates of salary from the 26th January 1856, the date at which operations in the West India emigration commenced.

14. With regard to the apportioning the expenses, I beg to repeat the suggestion contained in the concluding part of my letter of the 21st February last, No. 29, which is similar to that adopted by Mr. Caird, at Calcutta; namely, that the general cost of the establishment should be divided between the colonies, in proportion to the numbers despatched to each during the year; and that the expenses incurred on account of each ship should be debited to the colony to which it is proceeding.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Franklin,*
Colonial Emigration Agent.

Appendix, No. 1.

PRESENT AND PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENTS.

PRESENT ESTABLISHMENT.	Rs.	a.	PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT.	Rs.	a.
Mr. J. R. Seal, Manager	40	–	Mr. Seal, Manager	60	–
			Allowance as Interpreter	20	–
Mr. J. G. Oliver, Clerk	20	–	Mr. J. Holmes, Apothecary and Superintendent of Depôt	75	–
Mr. J. Holmes, Apothecary	50	–	House-rent, when not provided with free quarters	15	–
M. Yagapah, Chetty	10	–	Mr. Oliver, Clerk	30	–
			M. Yagapah, Chetty	17	8
Ruttensing, Head Peon	6	–	Ruthensing, Head Peon	*10	8
			Rungiah, ditto	* 7	–
Runjiah, ditto	6	–	Mpotealoo, ditto	* 7	–
			Ramsing, Lascar	4	–
Mootealloo, ditto	6	–	Sweeper	1	–
			Scavenger	1	–
Ramsing, Lascar	3	8			
			For Depôt:		
Sweeper	1	–	Jyaloo Raidoo, Tamil Writer	12	–
Toty	1	–	Barthasardy Naioloo, English Writer	12	–
			Gopaul Sing, Peon	6	–
			Vurdaragooloo, ditto	6	–
			Scavenger	4	–
Rs.	143	8	Rs	288	–

* These are the usual rates for Government peons at Madras. The other salaries are all low in comparison with those paid in the public offices under the Madras Government.

Appendix, No. 2.

COPY of CIRCULAR DESPATCH to the Governors of *British Guiana*, *Trinidad*, and *Jamaica*.

Appendix, No. 2.

Sir, Downing-street, 8 September 1857.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Sierra Leone, forwarding petitions from certain inhabitants of that place, praying that their relatives who emigrated to the West Indies with the promise of return passages, may be sent back, together with a copy of the Despatch I have addressed to Governor Hill in reply.

No. 116, 30 June 1857. Enclosure. Enclosure 2.

The Africans in question, unless they claimed their back passages within two years of the expiration of their five years' residence, and by any inadvertency they may have failed to obtain it, have now no claim upon the Colony to which they emigrated; but it will remain for you to decide whether they might not be sent back, should they really be desirous to go, with a view to inducing further emigration.

I have, &c,
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Enclosure in Appendix, No. 2.

(No. 116.)

Government House, Sierra Leone,
30 June 1857.

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to forward petitions from certain inhabitants of this Colony, begging that their children and relatives now in the West Indies may be granted a free passage back to Sierra Leone, agreeably, as they state, to the agreement made with them when they emigrated.

2. I cannot procure any record of the agreement entered into with these emigrants, but the impression on the minds of the respectable inhabitants is, that they were promised a free passage back after a service of five years. I also find it impossible to learn from the petitioners the names of the particular islands in which their relatives now are; but the prevailing impression is, that all, or the greater number, are at Trinidad, and in a destitute condition.

Appendix, No. 2.

3. I regret it is out of my power to afford such dates and particulars as should accompany the enclosed, but I venture to hope, that a Despatch addressed by you, Sir, to the Governors of the West India colonies, would elicit the desired information, as it is more than probable a proper record has been kept in each island of the names and dates of arrival of each emigrant, as well as of the conditions under which they agreed to serve.

4. I beg leave to enclose the only certificate I could procure bearing on the subject of emigration from hence to the West Indies, received from a woman who returned here from the island of Jamaica.

5. Trusting that, under the circumstances stated, I may be excused for not transmitting with these petitions more satisfactory information on the subject-matter contained therein.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stephen J. Hill*, Governor.

The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in Appendix, No. 2.

Sir, Sierra Leone, 18 May 1857.

HAVING heard on Saturday last that a vessel is here for the West Indies, and every person who had their children in that part are requested to send at once to your Excellency, as my son, Joseph Dixon, junior, had left the Colony on the 9th August 1841, and has gone there, I beg most respectfully to apply to your Excellency will please insert his name among others that had already applied for theirs, that by the providence of the Almighty my son may also (with your interest into the same) return to his native country, as he had been very long away from his home. I beg his Excellency will please render such assistance of the same, as this, my son, is the only one I had, and his leaving so long a time disturbs the minds of us at home.

I have, &c.
his
(signed) *Joseph* × *Dixon*, Sen.
mark.

To his Excellency S. J. Hill,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in Appendix, No. 2.

To his Excellency the Governor in Chief in and over the Colony of *Sierra Leone* and its Dependencies, Vice-Admiral and Chancellor of the same.

City of Freetown, 18 May 1857.

WHEREAS the petition of your most humble and obedient servant, Joseph Taylor, showeth that your petitioner is a sawyer by trade for the district of Charlote, and your petitioner has lived the Colony of Sierra Leone from the 8th August 1844, for Trinidad, with my son, Joseph Taylor, and your petitioner was to Trinidad for the space of a year, and returned back to Sierra Leone on November the 17th, and lived my son, Joseph Taylor, to Trinidad to a man by name James Coker, living at Mr. Lemon state, at Trinidad, and ever since I then left in the same place where I live my son; 'tis about 13 years ago. Your petitioner never hears nothing nor receive any answer from the said man, James Coker, during the said period of time; and your petitioner understood that there is notice out for same, that if anybody having any person living to such or such a distance must come before you; in so saying your petitioner begs and crave to your Excellency honour, that if your Excellency will oblige, the same son, Joseph Taylor, be brought, or by what means your petitioner must step to, as his son might be in Sierra Leone. Your humble petitioner will in duty bonds for ever pray.

I remain, &c.
his
(signed) *Joseph* × *Taylor*, Sawyer of Charlote.
mark

Enclosure 3, in Appendix, No. 2.

To his Excellency Lieutenant Colonel *Stephen J. Hill*, Governor in Chief in and over the Colony of *Sierra Leone* and its Dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

The humble Petition of the Undersigned.

Showeth,

THAT your Excellency's petitioners have children and other relatives each, who had been carried to the West Indies in the year 1842 and 1844 as emigrants, with the promise and assurance that after the expiration of five years a free passage will be granted them to Sierra Leone; now they are there for about 14 long years; that your Excellency's petitioners'

tioners' children and other relatives are very desirous and longing to return home to Sierra Leone, but have not the means and opportunity.

Your Excellency's petitioners have received several letters of late from their children and other relatives in the West Indies, in which they expressed that at present they are not in good circumstances, and they are all full of anxiety to return home; and the promise and assurance which had been given them ere they were carried away, that a free passage will be given them, is neglected; therefore they call for our help that a free passage might be granted them. As it is not in the power of your Excellency's petitioners to be at the expense of getting their children and other relatives to Sierra Leone, they humbly pray his Excellency to assist them. Conscious of his Excellency's pitifulness and readiness to assist those in distressed circumstances, your Excellency's petitioners therefore presume to solicit his Excellency to assist them in effecting a free passage for your Excellency's petitioners' children and other relatives in the West Indies.

Your Excellency's petitioners beg to attach a list containing the names of some of their children in the West Indies. Your Excellency's petitioners also beg to state, for the information of his Excellency, that there are good many people in the villages who have children and relatives in the West Indies, but they are not in town, to join with your Excellency's petitioners.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

We are, &c.

Freetown, Sierra Leone,
18 May 1857.

[19 Signatures.]

NAMES of some of the Emigrants to the *West Indies* from *Sierra Leone*.

Eliza Davis.	John Harding.	William Lisk.
William Jones.	John Comichael.	James Neville.
Peter Coker.	Obadiah William.	Judith Neville.
Andrew William.	Edward Senegal.	George Thorpe.
Louisa William.	Thomas Wise.	James Thorpe.
Moses William.	Catherine Macaulay.	Thomas Thorpe.
Robert Turner.	John Macaulay.	Joseph Davis.
Thomas Turner.	George Malfay.	Thomas Davis.
Jim Taylor.	Betsy Martin.	John Andison.
Henry Bull.	William Lewis.	George Railing.
Thomas Richard Soe.	Andrew Davis.	Thomas Jackson.
Ann Soe.	Edward Gordson.	Thomas Renner.
Jenny Franshaw.	William Jarratt.	Isaac C. Taylor.
John Davis.	George Macaulay.	
Mary Johnson.	Sally Lisk.	

Enclosure 4, in Appendix, No. 2.

To his Excellency Lieutenant Colonel *Stephen J. Hill*, Governor-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *Sierra Leone* and its Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

The humble Petition of the Undersigned.

Showeth,

THAT since your Excellency's petitioners' last petition to his Excellency, respecting their children and other relatives in the West Indies, and according to the reply received from his Excellency, your Excellency's petitioners have had names of several persons who join to entreat his Excellency, together with the names of their children and other relatives in the West Indies. Since your Excellency's petitioners are well aware that there is none other who could assist in circumstance like this but his Excellency, your Excellency's petitioners now presume to solicit his Excellency to have compassion on them, and relieve them from their present distressed circumstances. Your Excellency's petitioners beg to attach a list of all the names of the emigrants to the West Indies they could possibly get, with the fullest hope that his Excellency will at once assist your Excellency's petitioners.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

We beg, &c.

Freetown, Sierra Leone,
28 May 1857.

[28 Signatures.]

Appendix. No. 2.

Enclosure 2, in Appendix, No. 2.

(No. 256.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere,* M. P., to Governor *Hill.*

Sir, Downing-street, 10 September 1857.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 116, of the 30th June last, transmitting petitions from certain inhabitants of Sierra Leone, praying that their relatives who emigrated to the West Indies with the promise of return passages, may be sent back.

2. The persons referred to in these petitions appear to have left Africa between the years 1841 and 1844, during which period an emigration to the West Indies was undoubtedly carried on with the promise of a return passage. But it was the intention of the Government that these passages should be granted only after five years' residence, and subject to the condition that they were applied for within two years of their becoming due, and it is distinctly stated in the "certificate of right to a return passage," enclosed in your Despatch, copy of which seems to have been given to each immigrant, that the return passage is only to be granted "within two years after the expiration" of the immigrant's five years' residence. The immigrants in question having omitted to demand their passages within the prescribed period (which expired at latest in 1851) can no longer have any claim to them on the Governments of the colonies to which they have emigrated.

I will, however, communicate copies of your Despatch to the Governors of Jamaica, British Guiana, and Trinidad, in case the Governments of those colonies may be willing to send back these Africans should they be really desirous to return, with a view to inducing further emigration from Sierra Leone.

The letter to Mr. Charles Mason will be forwarded to the Immigration Agent of Trinidad, in order that he may, if possible, transmit it to the person for whom it is intended.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

Appendix, No. 3.

Appendix, No. 3.

COPY of CIRCULAR to the Governors of *British Guiana, Trinidad, Jamaica,* and the Windward Islands.

Sir, Downing-street, 4 June 1858.

I HAVE had under my consideration the general question of the agency to be employed for collecting emigrants in India for the West Indies.

With respect to the Port of Bombay, the Government of British Guiana has distinctly stated that it would not desire to appoint an agent unless it is to have his exclusive services. The Government of Trinidad has intimated a preference for the same course, although it would not urge it against any decided objection on the part of the Home Government. I see no sufficient reason for opposing the wishes which are entertained by both Governments on the subject; they will be at liberty to appoint separate agents, and it will be competent to any other West Indian Colony which may hereafter enter into the business of seeking for emigrants at Bombay to follow the precedent.

With regard also to Calcutta and Madras, I am led by an examination of the correspondence to believe that it will be better that the services of the existing agents should hereafter be confined to the Mauritius, and that the West Indian colonies should have a distinct agency of their own. Until such officers can be obtained, and reach the scene of their duties, the present agents will continue to act for the West Indian colonies by which they are now employed, and their salaries on account of those colonies will be payable until they are relieved.

From the tenor of the representations already received from them, I concluded that British Guiana and Trinidad will desire to have separate agents at Calcutta and Madras, in like manner as at Bombay; and this will presumably be the case also with Jamaica whenever arrangements may be made there for an importation of coolies. It will of course be open to any two or more of the colonies to combine, if they think proper, for the appointment of a joint agent; and in the case of the smaller colonies, this would seem the most convenient course, in order to avoid the disproportionate expense which must attend the employment of a distinct agent for each of them. It would probably not be difficult for them to settle an order of rotation in which any such joint agent might despatch ships to the several places for which he was retained. The pay of these agents must be fixed by the Colonial Governments. Without being excessive, it ought to be adequate to obtain the services of efficient and experienced men, who would command the confidence of the communities for which they were employed. I doubt not that the question will be settled by the local Governments with a fitting union of prudence and liberality.

The next question is the selection of the individuals to be employed. I shall be very glad to leave this to the Colonial Governments, if there should be on the spot any persons to whom they would wish to confide the appointments; and in some respects this result would be the most acceptable to me, as ensuring, on the part of the local authorities, a

feeling

Appendix, No. 3.

feeling of confidence in the person named to transact their business in India; but if there should not happen to be in the Colony anyone who would be deemed suitable for this peculiar occupation, Her Majesty's Government will be prepared, on the application of the Governor, to do their best to obtain an eligible person in this country, and to consult on the subject, if it should be wished, the West India Committee, or any other advisers whom the Governor may suggest for the purpose.

Whilst I have thus, in deference to the wishes expressed by different authorities in the West Indies, and from a concurrence on my own part in their opinion, agreed to the establishment of separate agencies, I am bound at the same time to state, that I think that this measure must put an end to the idea of keeping up a division of seasons between the Mauritius and the West Indies. India will be open throughout the year to the agents of all the colonies concerned to do their best for the advancement of the service on which they are employed, with the exception only, so far as regards the West Indies, of the few months in which paramount sanitary considerations render it unfit that coolies should be despatched so as to pass the Cape of Good Hope during the cold weather. Due inquiry will be made, in order that the period reserved on this account may be reduced within the narrowest compass compatible with the safety of the passengers.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

Appendix, No. 4.

Appendix, No. 4.

(Circular.)

Sir, Downing-street, April 1859.

I TRANSMIT to you copies of two letters from the India Department, forwarding a report and other documents from Dr. Mouat, showing the result of the inquiries made at Calcutta into the large mortality which occurred on board the emigrant ship which proceeded from that port to the West Indies during the season of 1856-57.

9 December 1858.
1 January 1859.

I also transmit to you a copy of the answer returned to the India Department by my desire, with a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject, and I have to instruct you to guide yourself by the suggestions made by the Commissioners in their letters, so far as the colony under your Government is concerned.

15 April 1859.
1 April 1859.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. B. Lytton.*

Enclosure 1, in Appendix No. 4.

Sir, East India House, 9 December 1858.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject, I am commanded by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the documents noted in the margin, exhibiting the results of the inquiries into the large mortality on board emigrant ships from Calcutta to the West Indies, in the season 1856-57.

Sub-Enclosure 1. Report from Dr. Mouat, dated 10th May 1858.
Sub-Enclosure 2. Letter from Dr. Mouat, dated 31st July 1858. No. 907.
Sub-Enclosure 3. Letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, dated 23d September 1858. No. 2146.

It was at first proposed that the inquiry ordered by the Home Authorities should be prosecuted by a committee of Government officers, but Dr. Mouat, being at the time the only competent officer available for the purpose, the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal entrusted the duty to him alone. Dr. Mouat, who holds the appointment of inspector of gaols and general dispensaries in Bengal, has on former occasions been employed on special investigations of a cognate character, and Lord Stanley is of opinion that the report now submitted is such as fully to justify the expectations of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal in appointing him to conduct the present inquiry.

Lord Stanley does not think it necessary to express in detail his sentiments with regard to the conclusions arrived at by Dr. Mouat, but he directs me to state that, in his opinion, it is satisfactorily established that the great mortality among the emigrants of 1856-57 was not owing to defects of management at the depôt in Calcutta, or to any laxity on the part of the officers of the Emigration Department, in respect to the selection or care of the emigrants previous to embarkation.

The arrangement of the emigrant ships, and the provision made for the emigrants on board, were thought, by Dr. Mouat, to be in many respects defective, and such as to endanger health. Various changes suggested by that officer seem to have been very properly adopted by the Government of India. With regard to the proposal to reduce the proportion of women and children to accompany the male emigrants, Lord Stanley does not doubt that Sir E. Bulwer Lytton will concur with him in approving the refusal of the Government to take a step, in a matter of such great moral and social importance, which would have been opposed to the tenor of positive orders from this country, in respect to which his Lordship considers that no relaxation ought to be allowed.

It is to be regretted that Dr. Mouat failed to elicit any special reasons for the great and and exceptional mortality among the emigrants of 1856-57. The selection of individuals, and the arrangements previous to embarkation are shown, as above observed, to have been carefully

Appendix, No. 4.

carefully attended to, and as regards the arrangements considered defective on board ship, no change, except as regards one article of diet, had been introduced in the practice followed in previous years. The case of the ship "Scindian" presents an instance of the difficulty of the question. This ship had, in the previous year, made the voyage to Trinidad with a mortality of only four (the number of emigrants on board is not stated); in 1856-57, with the same commander and the same surgeon, she lost sixty-six souls out of a total of two hundred and eighty-eight.

Notwithstanding, however, the inability of Dr. Mouat to account for the exceptional mortality of the year under consideration, it is the distinct opinion of that officer that such sickness and mortality are to be prevented by proper care and attention, and that there is no ground afforded by such exceptional results for putting a stop to emigration. Lord Stanley entirely concurs in this opinion, and his Lordship does not doubt that such of Dr. Mouat's suggestions for diminishing risks to health and life, as it was not within the competency of the Government of India to act upon, will receive due consideration from the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Herman Merivale, Esq., C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J Cosmo Melvill.*

Sub-Enclosure 1.

REPORT on the Mortality of Emigrant Coolies on the Voyage to the West Indies, in 1856-57.

To *C. T. Buckland*, Esq., C.S., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Sir, Fort William, 10 May 1858.

1. Origin of the inquiry.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No 1277, dated the 15th October 1857, quoted in the margin * for readier reference, forwarding certain documents from the Honourable Court of Directors and Her Majesty's Emigration Office, relative to the excessive mortality which occurred during the year 1856-57, among coolie emigrants, on their passage from Calcutta to the West Indies, and intimating that the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor had been pleased to select me to institute a searching inquiry into the causes of that mortality, and to suggest remedies for its future prevention.

2. Supposed source of the evil.

2. From the reports of the immigration authorities in the West Indies, and the statements of the officers in charge of the vessels on which the mortality occurred, it is believed that the evil originated in the depôt at Calcutta, and it was particularly enjoined that the greatest care should be taken to ascertain if the lamentable mortality were due to exceptional causes which could not be discovered, and of which the effects could not be foreseen; or whether it might have resulted from discoverable causes, had proper care been taken to ascertain them, and to provide against their fatality.

3. Points to be ascertained.

3. To attain this end, the chief points to determine are—1st, the state of the people when they were embarked; 2nd, the measures that are taken in Calcutta to ascertain that the emigrants selected are sound, healthy, and fit to undergo the risks of a long voyage; 3rd, the present mode of fitting up ships for coolies; 4th, the recent alterations in the dietary of emigrants; 5th, the effects of detention in the River Hooghly after the people are on board; and lastly, the reason of the healthiness of the Madras coolies embarked at the same season, and subject to the same regulations.

4. To

* No. 1277. To F. J. Mouat, Esq., M. D., Inspector of Gaols and Government Dispensaries; dated Fort William, 15 October 1857. Sir,—I am directed to forward to you in original the correspondence noted in the margin, (*a*) regarding the great mortality which occurred during the past season among the coolie emigrants on their passage from Calcutta to the West Indies, and to inform you, that the Lieutenant Governor has selected you to hold the important investigation which it is necessary to make into the causes which led to such lamentable results, and for the suggestion of such measures as may be calculated to prevent similar disasters hereafter. 2. The Lieutenant Governor has appointed you alone to the conduct of this difficult inquiry, as it would not be easy at the present time to make the services of other competent officers under this Government available for the purposes of a committee, but his Honor has full reliance on your peculiar aptitude for the duty set before you, and is confident that your information and experience on cognate subjects will enable you to submit such a report as the importance of the interests at stake demands. 3. The Superintendent of Marine, the Protector of Emigrants, the Emigration Agent, and the Medical Examiner of Emigrants will be requested to afford you all the information and assistance in their power, and the Lieutenant Governor has no doubt, that you will be able to obtain the willing co-operation of the mercantile community if you have occasion to apply to them for aid or information in the course of your inquiry. 4. The Lieutenant Governor will not attempt to prescribe the method in which your inquiries should be conducted The points to which you will specially direct your attention are noted in paragraph 13 of Mr. Murdoch's letter of 30th June, to Herman Merivale, Esq. You will of course commit to writing the statements of any person whom you may examine, if their evidence appears to be of sufficient interest or importance; but it is not necessary that such statement should be taken on oath; and indeed the power to administer an oath could not be conferred on you by the Lieutenant Governor in the present state of the law. 5. If you should find it necessary to incur any expenses in the prosecution of the inquiry, you will have the goodness to submit a contingent bill for the same to this office. 6. The return of the original papers is requested when no longer required.—I have, &c.—(signed) *C. T. Buckland*, Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

(*a*) Letter from Officiating Under Secretary to Government of India, Home Department, No. 1900, dated 10th September 1857, and Enclosure. Letter from Emigration Agent at the port of Calcutta, No. 4, dated 20th August 1857, with two Enclosures. Letter from Medical Examiner of Emigrants No. 10, dated 19th August 1857, and Enclosure.

Appendix, No. 4.

4. To enable me to conduct the inquiry in the manner most likely to lead to a satisfactory result, I communicated personally with every person likely to possess any information on the subject. I read carefully all the documents forwarded to me, and all the rules and regulations regarding the collection and transmission of emigrants from this country. I personally examined the depôt at Bhowanipore, and was present during the medical examination of two batches of coolies. I went on board of every ship in the river that was selected to carry emigrants, to scrutinize their arrangements for accommodation, ventilation, privies, food, supply of water, fitting up generally, and all that relates to the comfort and health of the coolies in transit. I witnessed the embarkation of three different sets of emigrants, and the arrangements made on those occasions. I examined orally, in the presence of Mr. Caird, as long as he was in Calcutta, every commander and surgeon of every ship in port which had carried emigrants to the West Indies and the Mauritius.

4. Sources of information.

5. When I left the Presidency to take part in the survey of the Andaman Islands, in November last, the commanders and surgeons of such emigrant vessels as visited Calcutta during my absence were examined by Captain Hill, the protector of emigrants, with whom I left written instructions as to the exact nature of the information required. This duty was most kindly undertaken, and well performed by Captain Hill.

6. The oral testimony of all these persons was recorded in writing at the time, and is contained in Appendix No. III., pp. 52—63.

7. I likewise addressed the Chamber of Commerce of Calcutta, and the emigration authorities at Madras, on the subject of the inquiry, and solicited from them any information they might be able to afford on the important matter under investigation.

8. I also obtained from the Bengal office all documents relating to the health and mortality of emigrants, which have been recorded, and have printed them in the Appendix.

9. I am thus particular in enumerating the sources of my information, to show that I have left no means untried to arrive at the truth in the difficult and delicate inquiry entrusted to me.

5. Reasons for recording them.

10. I could have furnished my report three months ago, but was unwilling to close the inquiry as long as the smallest hope remained of obtaining further information in so important a matter, involving as it does, the lives of many human beings, and the character of those entrusted with their selection in, and transmission from Calcutta.

6. Cause of delay in transmission of report.

11. The principal source of the evil having been declared to be the state in which the coolies were embarked at Calcutta, my inquiries were first directed to this point.

7. State in which the coolies were embarked.

12. The emigration agent, the assistant protector of emigrants, and the medical officer at the depôt, all declared that the rules and regulations on the subject of the selection and embarkation of emigrants had been strictly and faithfully complied with, and that, with the exception of a few old people, who were objected to, but embarked in consequence of their being members of families, the coolies were fair average lots, and in good health at the time of leaving Calcutta.

13. The survey and all other reports I found to be perfectly *en regle*. In addition to those of the official persons mentioned above, certificates signed by the surgeon of each vessel, and countersigned by the commander, as well as the pilot's certificates, were placed in my hands.

14. The certificates of the surgeons and commanders of the vessels are at variance with the statements made by the same persons when their respective voyages were completed, while the assertions of the emigration officers in Calcutta are fully borne out by their records.

15. It being obviously impossible at this distance of time to reconcile these discrepancies, it becomes necessary to analyse the returns of the various ships in which the mortality occurred, with a view to establish by the inferences fairly deducible from them, the probabilities of each case.

16. In this attempt I was met *in limine* by extreme difficulty in gathering anything precise from the meagreness of the records submitted to me, and the vagueness of the statements on which the serious charge is founded.

17. It was only in those cases in which the commanders and surgeons of the ships were themselves examined that any satisfactory conclusion could be arrived at. The evidence of Mr. Chennell, the surgeon of the "Wellesley," of Doctor Dyas, of the "Eveline," and of the commanders of the "Bucephalus," the "Sir Robert Seppings," and the "Eveline" are particularly valuable in this respect.

18. For convenience of reference, I will briefly analyse the case of each ship in the order in which they are mentioned in the first document appended to this report.

19. The first vessel alluded to is the "Wellesley," which left Calcutta on the 4th of October 1856, and reached Demerara on the 10th of January 1857, after a passage of 92 days. Out of a complement of 382 she lost 22 persons, viz., 10 men, 6 women, 1 boy, 3 girls, and 2 infants.

8. The "Wellesley."

20. Of the fatal cases, the largest number, five and four respectively, died in the

Appendix, No. 4.

eleventh and thirteenth weeks. The mortality amounted to 7·28 per cent. of the strength embarked.

21. Three of the deaths occurred from accidental causes; the remainder are entered as cases of dysentery, but were in reality chiefly examples of typhoid fever, with dysenteric symptoms, as explained by Mr. Chennell in his oral examination.

22. The printed certificate signed by Mr. Chennell and Captain Parish in Calcutta is to the following effect:

* Adults.	
Men	254
Women	85
Boys	13
Girls	11
Infants	20
Total	382

"I do hereby certify that I have this day carefully and individually examined the Indian labourers about to be embarked on board the emigrant vessel "Wellesley," bound to the West Indies (in number as per margin), and that I find that each person has either had small-pox or undergone vaccination; that they are at present in a good state of health, free from disease, and physically fit to undertake the contemplated voyage.

"*S. Payne Chennell*, Surgeon.
"*Alfred Parish*, Commander.

"Calcutta, the 4th October, 1858.

"Two men and two women had been sick prior to their examination, but appeared to be recovered sufficiently to be passed; all the rest are in good health.

(signed) "*S. Payne Chennell*, Surgeon."

23. The following is a literal transcript of the pilot's certificate:

"To Captain Thomas Hill,
Protector of Emigrants.

"Sir,

"I beg to report, having left the ship "Wellesley," Captain Alfred Parish, commander, at sea on the 7th of October, with the following number of emigrants on board, viz., 382—

Men	254
Women	84
Boys under 10 years 13, equal to	6½
Girls „ 4 „	—
Infants—Male	—
„ Female	8½
TOTAL Adults	350 †

"2. I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, no additional emigrants were received on board after my pilotage charge, and that all the provisions of the Emigration Act were observed on board.

"3. No deaths took place among the emigrants up to the time of my quitting the vessel.

"I have, &c.
"The 7th October 1856." "*H. Cox*, Master Pilot."

"MEMO. OF DEATHS.

"None.

"*Alfred Parish*, Commander.
"*S. Payne Chennell*, Surgeon

"*N. B.*—The commander and doctor report the coolies to be generally in a good state of health."

24. I have given the above *in extenso* to avoid repetition in speaking of the other vessels, as the certificates were all in the same form.

25. Mr. Chennell in his oral testimony states, that he personally attended at the examination of the emigrants, and was satisfied that the duty was carefully conducted; and that the food, water, ventilation, and every arrangement were excellent.

The people sleeping near the hatches were the most sickly, and the deaths occurred among those so situated.

The ship carried a rice cargo, from which a sickening smell, as well as much heat, were evolved.

The general character of the disease was a low typhoid fever, not paroxysmal in character.

Captain

† *Sic in origine.*

Captain Parish stated that the majority of the people were stout, able men, with the exception of about a dozen old and decrepit people, who were protested against. I do not find any record of this protest. Appendix, No. 4.

He ascribed the sickness to sudden change of temperature during a gale in the Bay of Bengal. He mentions also that 28 of his own men were laid up with low fever and dysentery.

26. This direct testimony is of great importance, as it proves indisputably that, so far as the "Wellesley" is concerned, no blame whatever attaches to the emigration officers in Calcutta, and that the disease from which both coolies and crew suffered, could not by any possibility have been carried from Bengal. I shall have occasion to refer to the latter point again in a subsequent portion of this report.

27. The next ship mentioned in the correspondence is the "Blue Jacket," which sailed from Madras to Demerara, and after a transit of 75 days, lost only four coolies out of 472. The returns are very carelessly drawn up. 9. Ship "Blue Jacket."

28. The health officer states the ventilation of the lower deck to be excellent, and to have contributed in a great measure to the unusually small mortality.

29. This vessel is now in the port of Calcutta, and I examined her most carefully to ascertain if any points in her construction and arrangements are deserving of imitation.

30. She is by far the most perfectly ventilated ship I have yet seen. Fore and aft are two large ventilators, each about four feet square, running from the hold to the upper deck without communicating with the main deck. By the excellent arrangement of her dunnage, no leakage of cargo can find its way to the bilge.

31. To these two circumstances I attribute the entire absence of any bad effects from a rice cargo, which she carried to Demerara, after it had been shipped for four months.

32. The "Blue Jacket" is unusually lofty between decks, and her main deck is ventilated along the greater part of the upper deck, so that in all weathers, and at all times, the emigrants had an abundant supply of fresh air.

33. The commander of his own authority, from previous experience of its usefulness, placed the privies outside in the fore-chains.

34. The Surgeon was well accustomed to the management of natives, and spoke their language fluently.

35. These circumstances were not without considerable influence in the production of the successful issue of the voyage of the "Blue Jacket."

36. Mr. Frost, the owner of the vessel mentioned to me incidentally, when I was examining her, that the regulations regarding emigrants were far more strictly observed in Calcutta than in Madras.

37. The "Bucephalus" follows the "Blue Jacket," and exhibits a most marked contrast in the result of her voyage. 10. The "Bucephalus."

38. She left Calcutta on the 1st of November 1856, and reached George Town on the 3d of February 1857, after a passage of 95 days.

39. She embarked 389 adults, and lost 45, viz. 16 men, 15 women, 3 boys, 2 girls, and 9 infants.

40. The certificate signed by the surgeon and Commander, bears date Calcutta the 1st of November 1856, enumerates the number of emigrants embarked, declares them to be in good health, free from disease, and physically fit to undertake the voyage, and to it is appended the following note by the surgeon, Mr. Hatchell: "of the above (380 coolies) there are two women past the middle age, a boy and one girl, much debilitated from previous sickness, and a young lad with dislocation of the hip-joint and formation of a false joint." There is no mention of junglies, or of any objection being made to any other of the emigrants.

41. The pilot's certificate is dated the 4th of November 1856, is signed Alfred Bond, and, after the usual specification, notes that two men died of cholera on the passage down the river, and that one infant died of dysentery.

42. To the statement is appended a note in the following terms; "the commander and doctor report the coolies to be generally in a healthy state of health."

43. The survey and other reports are satisfactory.

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44. In reporting the state in which the "Bucephalus" reached Demerara, the Hon. Mr. Wodehouse remarks, that "the inference above all others to be drawn from the report is, that no matter however excellent may be the rules, the well-being of the emigrants must mainly depend, as in all similar transactions, upon the judgment and efficiency with which they are carried out by the captain and surgeon in charge."

"The commander of the 'Bucephalus' on the other hand, seems to have looked upon the condition of the coolies as a matter with which he had little or no concern. He left them altogether in the hands of the surgeon, who again had neither aptitude for command, nor energy sufficient to contend with the dirty and disorderly habits of the people: his medical treatment of them, however, appears to have been satisfactory."

45. The evidence of the commander of the "Bucephalus," both at George Town and in Calcutta, exhibits the grossest carelessness and culpable neglect of duty on the part of all the officers entrusted with the care of the emigrants.

46. The immigration agent general and health officer attribute the great sickness and mortality to the total absence of hospital accommodation; to the biscuits being unbaked, full of weevil, and unfit for human food; to the entire absence of medical comforts, and the means of cooking them; and beyond all, to the excessive and mistaken kindness which induced the surgeon to allow the people to remain below the greater part of the voyage.

47. Of the fatal cases, those occurred in the first week, 6, the second 10, the third 5, the fourth 1, the fifth 2, the seventh 4, the eighth 3, the ninth 3, the 11th 1, the 12th 3, the 13th 6, the 14th 1.

48. The diseases were chiefly typhoid fever and dysentery: scanty particulars were given only of 27 of the deaths.

49. The remarks of the medical examiner who passed the emigrants are contained in p. 28 of the Appendix. They deny some of the statements made by the commander and surgeon, and question the accuracy of others. Mr. Scriven's remarks are deserving of much consideration.

50. In his examination before me Captain Peppercorne mentioned, that he was four days in making the passage from Calcutta to the Sandheads; that the water was pumped in alongside; that the cargo consisted of rice; that cleanliness was not sufficiently enforced; that when the people were brought up on deck, the improvement in their health was marked and immediate; that they became sickly again, directly they relapsed into their old habits; that those who survived the voyage were a fine healthy set; and that he did not perceive any difference between them and those who died.

51. The circumstances above narrated establish beyond all possibility of doubt or denial, that the causes of disease and mortality existed in, and were due to the grievous mismanagement of the ship; that the maladies were exactly such as would have occurred on shore in any climate, when a large number of human beings were exposed to the same or similar influences; and that there is no evidence whatever of carelessness, neglect of duty, or mismanagement of any kind, as attaching to the emigration agent, or to any other person in Calcutta.

52. The occurrence of cholera in the passage down the river is no proof that the emigrants were in a bad state of health when they were embarked, as similar outbreaks of that inscrutable malady have happened in troop-ships, and vessels of all kinds and classes, among robust healthy Europeans, strong able-bodied lascar crews, pilgrims to Mecca, and even in boats with natives on board, who constantly live on the river, and are proof against all the ordinary exhalations and miasmata incident to its banks. This subject will be referred to again.

53. Instead of being surprised at the extent of sickness and mortality, I am astonished that any escaped. The state of health of those embarked must have been unusually good to have enabled them to resist the deadly influence of filth, animal and vegetable exhalations, and a vitiated atmosphere such as would have bred a pestilence in the healthiest spot on the face of the globe.

* * * * * * * *

56. The most important admission of all is that of the Commander regarding the immediate amendment caused by removing the coolies to the upper deck, and the recurrence of sickness the moment they were allowed to remain below again.

11. The "Sir Robert Seppings."

57. The next ship reported is the "Sir Robert Seppings," which sailed from Calcutta on the 25th of November 1856, and reached George Town on the 24th of February 1857, after a passage of 88 days.

58. Out of 291 emigrants, she lost 35 men, 12 women, 3 boys, 3 girls, and 8 infants; in all, 61 souls.

59. Of the above, the chief mortality occurred on the 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th weeks,

weeks, about one-third only of the fatal cases happening in the first eight weeks. The chief diseases were fever and dysentery.

60. The Commission appointed to examine into this lamentable amount of casualties attributed it to "causes existing before the ship sailed, to some defects in the diet, and to defective arrangements on board."

61. The evidence of the commander at Demerara (Appendix, p. 59) and in Calcutta (pp. 59, 60), are somewhat at variance, and he failed to substantiate his charge that the coolies were desired to conceal their sickness at the depot. His assertion that the emigrants believed that they were bound to the Mauritius, while they were actually sent to the West Indies, is equally unfounded. The two are selected by different agencies, and the nature of each is perfectly well known to all persons designing to migrate. It is, in addition, carefully explained to every man before embarkation. At one time he asserts that he "never embarked so bad a lot before;" in another place he declares that he did not anticipate, from the appearance of the men, any unusual sickness or mortality; and that although he considered them a shabby lot, he did not object to any of them.

62. He himself, his surgeon and his crew, suffered from dysentery, which he attributed to "mixing up with the coolies." The people were dirty in their habits, and it was necessary to compel them to cleanliness.

63. The Commissioners arrived at the conclusion, 1st, that the officers of the ship had discharged their duties with zeal and diligence; 2d, that the provisions were sufficient and good; 3d, that many of the immigrants were embarked at Calcutta while actually suffering from the contagious disease, dysentery; 4th, that the disease became intensified and spread, from the absence of means of separating the infected; 5th, that some secondary causes contributed to the fatal results; 6th, that a secondary effect of the impure air and moral causes existing on board these vessels (the "Robert Seppings" and the "Roman Emperor") was the development of fatal typhoid fever.

64. The only one of the causes above mentioned which affects the character of the emigration officers in Calcutta is the third; but I shall analyse them all, as they contain the real origin of the evil, without the necessity of imagining distant reasons for a palpable effect.

65. First those with regard to the charge of many of the emigrants having been embarked at Calcutta while labouring under contagious disease.

66. The certificate, signed in Calcutta by the surgeon and commander, dated the 25th of November 1856, declares all the emigrants embarked to be "in a good state of health, free from disease, and physically fit to undertake the contemplated voyage." There is no exception recorded to any of them.

67. The certificate of the pilot, bearing date the 27th of November, records that no deaths took place while he was on board; and to it is appended a note, in the following terms:—

"The commander and doctor report the coolies to be generally in a perfect state of health." This is signed by Mr. Crawford, as surgeon superintendent.

68. The officers in Calcutta emphatically deny the accuracy of the assertions of both the commander and surgeon, and this denial is fully borne out by their records. The statements of Mr. Scriven are recorded in the 29th and 30th pages of the Appendix.

69. The Commission of Inquiry speak of a contagious dysentery having been taken on board in Calcutta. No such disease exists or is known in Lower Bengal; and from what I have seen of acute dysentery in this city, in both Europeans and natives, in the largest hospital in the whole of India, I am convinced that it could not be concealed from even a cursory medical examination.

That typhoid fever, and the form of dysentery so frequently associated with it, should "be intensified and spread from the absence of the means of separating the affected," is probable enough. But that no effort was made in this desirable direction by the Commander of the vessel is scarcely consistent with the certificate of zeal and efficiency granted by the Demerara Committee. Temporary accommodation might, without very great difficulty, have been constructed on the deck, and greater exertion ought to have been made to keep the people on deck out of the polluted atmosphere below.

70. The development of fatal typhoid fever is stated by the same Committee to be a secondary effect of the impure air and moral causes existing on board the vessels.

The disease referred to is unknown in Calcutta. In an experience of nearly 18 years I have only seen two cases, and these were doubtful. Both occurred in Europeans.

On the other hand, the affection is identical with the disorder that prevailed at Scutari and in the floating hospitals of the Bosphorus, and was evidently due to the same causes.

The commander, his surgeon, and crew suffered from it as well as the coolies. It is not pretended that the former carried it from Calcutta with them, or that they embarked in a feeble state rendering them more liable to attack.

While it is true that the feeble and debilitated from any cause are more prone to succumb to the influence of impure air, filth, and the other causes of disease that existed on board

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the "Sir Robert Seppings," it is not shown that the sickly suffered most. On the contrary, the Commander states (Appendix, p. 59, 60), that the strongest and finest went off most suddenly. He also mentions "that those who kept themselves very clean did not suffer at all, the women as well as the men."

It is abundantly manifest from the above that the primary cause of the fever that proved so fatal, existed and was produced in the ship, was the result partly of neglect, and in part of the absence of adequate ventilation, and other sources of impure air to which more particular reference will be made hereafter; and that it had nothing whatever to do with the state in which the emigrants were embarked in Calcutta.

71. The conclusions of neither the surgeon nor the committee regarding the prejudicial influence of the food are borne out by the evidence, nor by the experience of other vessels in which exactly the same articles of diet were used.

72. The assertion of Dr. Crawford that the examination of the coolies prior to embarkation was merely nominal on his part is simply discreditable to himself. His attendance was for the express purpose of seeing that the examination was properly performed, and he was armed with sufficient authority to object to any person whom he did not consider in a fit state to embark. That he made no objection, and failed to place on record a single sentiment of disapproval, may not unreasonably be attributed either to his having none to make at the time, or to his having utterly failed to discharge the duty entrusted to him, and to his having signed a statement which he knew at the time to be incorrect. It is to be hoped, for his own sake, that the first-mentioned is the correct supposition.

73. I am unable to reconcile the conclusions of the Commission that the disease was in any way due to the defects in the diet, with their statement that the provisions were good and sufficient. The only article of food to which the emigrants were not accustomed in their own country was the biscuit; and although this may have disagreed with some of them, it could scarcely have exercised any material influence on the mortality that occurred.

74. I have not noticed specially the heavy mortality among the children in all the vessels, as I shall consider it separately, it being chiefly due in all cases to the same great primary cause, the absence of proper diet for children.

12. The "Roman Emperor."

75. The next vessel on the list is the "Roman Emperor." She left Calcutta on the 1st of December 1856, and reached George Town on the 26th of February 1857, after a run of 87 days from port to port. She embarked 313 souls, viz.—

Men	207
Women	68
Boys	14
Girls	12
Infants	12

76. The certificate of the Commander and surgeon was in the usual form, with a note by the surgeon that he objected to two women as being old and infirm.

77. The certificate of Mr. Young, master pilot, dated the 3d December 1858, stated that up to the time of his quitting the vessel two deaths took place among the women from cholera. The foot note to this document runs thus:—"The Commander and doctor report the coolies to be generally in a fair state of health, but a great tendency to cholera and bowel complaints."*

78. The deaths during the voyage were 88, viz.—

Men	50
Women	21
Boys	4
Girls	6
Infants	7

79. The time of occurrence of these were—

First week	6	Eighth week	12
Second week	3	Ninth week	2
Third week	3	Tenth week	13
Fourth week	7	Eleventh week	14
Fifth week	2	Twelfth week	8
Sixth week	3	Thirteenth week	6
Seventh week	8		

giving the fearful average of 28·030 per cent. of deaths to strength.

The

* *Sic in origine.*

The greatest mortality occurred in the 4th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, and 12th weeks. The chief diseases were dysentery, fever, and a few cases of cholera. Appendix, No. 4.

80. The Commission appointed to inquire into this mortality attributed it to the causes already enumerated in the case of the "Sir Robert Seppings."*. * Para. 63.

The surgeon general reported the ventilation of the ship to be defective.

The report of the commander mentions that one case of cholera occurred a quarter of an hour after Mr. Caird's departure, and two others the next day, all of which proved fatal. This is an evident error, as but two were reported by the pilot to have died between Calcutta and the Sandheads.

81. The occurrence of cholera and diarrhœa in the Hooghly are, as mentioned above, no proof that those attacked were in bad health at the time of embarkation.

The troop ship "Thetis" left Calcutta in the cold weather of 1841, with about 300 men of Her Majesty's 50th Foot, bound to Moulmein.

Before they reached the Sandheads they lost from cholera 26 men, and among them some of the finest, strongest, and most steady soldiers on board, who were in perfect health at the time of embarkation. The sick and weakly men of the corps had been left in Calcutta, where cholera, in an epidemic form, was not rife at the time.

I embarked on the steamer "Hindostan" for Madras at day-break on the 16th of April 1845. By the time the vessel reached Kedgeree at three in the afternoon two persons had died of cholera, one of them a young stewardess, who declared that she was perfectly well in the morning, and had waited at table on the children two hours before her death.‡

The occurrence of cholera and diarrhœa in the Hoogly, are not, *per se*, proofs of bad health at the time of embarkation.

82. Both the commander and the surgeon mention the occurrence of bad weather after leaving the Sandheads, with considerable increase of sickness, and so foul and filthy a state of the vessel that the crew refused to go below. Here the type of the disease evidently changed, and to this, increasing in degree as the voyage proceeded, the great sickness and mortality were, in my judgment and belief, due.

83. The typhoid fever occurred shortly before rounding the Cape, and as before stated, had no reference to the state in which the emigrants left Calcutta.

The best account of the causes producing such a state will be found in the report of the Special Crimean Commission on the hospital ships in the Bosphorus. In that case the sufferers were all Europeans, and the evil influences at work were identical with those rife in the "Roman Emperor."

84. On a careful review of the whole of the facts above narrated, I am unable to find in them any evidence of neglect or want of care on the part of the emigration authorities in Calcutta.

85. The next ship to which I shall refer is the "Adelaide." She left Calcutta on the 11th of December 1856, carrying 304 souls, to none of whom exception was taken by the commander or the surgeon. 13. The "Adelaide."

The pilot's certificate dated the 14th of December mentions that one man, one woman, and one boy died while he was in charge, from causes unknown to him. The postscript mentions that the coolies were generally in good health, but that one was seriously ill when Mr. Laing, the branch pilot, left.

86. The deaths on the voyage were seven men, eight women, one boy, eight girls, and four infants. Cholera was said to be prevalent when the ship sailed, and the deaths to have resulted from cholera and dysentery, which attacked the crew likewise, a seaman and a midshipman having died from cholera. The rest of the coolies were reported to be in good order,

‡ Since this report was written, I embarked for Assam at 5 p.m. on the 15th May. Between the steamer and the flat were 150 European seamen, of whom the majority were in good health when they came on board. Diarrhœa appeared among them in the first night, and increased in the second. Towards the morning of the third day, cholera broke out in the Sunderbunds, and of seven cases, two terminated fatally in a few hours. One was the most powerful man on board, but a hard liver: the other was a very sober, steady man. Both declared themselves to have been in perfect health at the time of embarkation, the evening of the 15th. Between Calcutta and Dacca, 63 other cases of choleraic diarrhœa occurred, all of which recovered; a few of them became dysenteric, but yielded to treatment. The lascar crew did not suffer at all. Some of the passengers on board (officers) had diarrhœa as well as the men. The supply of water for drinking and cooking was pumped in alongside, and was very brackish. To it the men, with one voice, attributed their sickness. The lascars had been used to drink the river water, the Europeans were not accustomed to it. Among the men were several old, steady seamen, who stated that they had visited the port of Calcutta several times, and invariably suffered from diarrhœa on their first arrival, until they became accustomed to the river water. Natives and Europeans from all other parts of India complain of the river, tank, and well-water of Calcutta as being unpleasant to the taste, and causing diarrhœa in new arrivals. When Mr. Sims, an eminent civil engineer, proposed his great plan for supplying Calcutta with pure and wholesome water, he fixed on Ishapore, beyond Barrackpore, and about 18 miles from the city, as the position for his reservoirs, that being the nearest point at which the stream of the Hooghly is at all seasons sweet, and free from tidal influences. Some years since I analysed the water in the wells of the Medical College, during the month of May of a very sickly year, and found it to contain a considerable amount of soluble salts, chiefly chloride of magnesium and sulphate of soda. All these facts are of importance in the present inquiry.—*F. J. M.*

Appendix, No. 4.

order, particularly the men from Northern India, and to be likely to prove a valuable acquisition to the colony.

The inspector of health of shipping states the mortality to have been chiefly among elderly and infirm people, who had to be secured as belonging to families.

The evidence of the commander in Calcutta shows that the coolies were a fair average batch, that the cargo was rice, the water pumped up alongside, and the sickness common to both coolies and crew.

In this case there is no charge of malfeasance against the emigration agent.

14. The "Eveline."

87. Succeeding the "Adelaide" is the "Eveline," which made the voyage in 70 days, and out of a complement of 387, lost no less than 71 on the passage, chiefly women and infants.

88. The certificate of the surgeon and commander is in the usual form, and specifies no exception to the healthiness of the convicts at the time of embarkation. It is dated 10th of January 1857.

The pilot's certificate, signed by Mr. Bensley and dated the 12th of January, mentions two deaths from cholera among the women, and that the coolies generally were in a good state of health.

89. The inspector of health of shipping remarks that the medical officer in charge imputed the unusual mortality to the sickly state in which the coolies were embarked, and to 200 of the people being junglies, the lowest of our Indian population, He also mentions that the doctor was allowed no veto with regard to the selection of emigrants.

90. Mr. Scriven comments on certain statements of the surgeon of the "Eveline," which are not in any of the papers submitted to me. The assertions referred to are not sufficient to account for the mortality, or to justify the conclusions arrived at by Dr. Burrows, who is evidently a somewhat inaccurate observer.

91. The evidence of the commander in Calcutta states that there was a large proportion of jungly men, who were much inferior to the others; that Mr. Caird expected him to have some trouble with them, and sent a native doctor to the Sandheads in consequence; that the ship's water was pumped in through the filtering boat; that the crew, consisting of fine, stout, able men, suffered at the same time from the same diseases as the coolies; that he had a rice cargo, of which three bags were damaged, and that there was free communication between the hold and the 'tween deck; that the provisions of the coolies were not properly cooked; that he and the doctor wished to change the diet, but considered that they had no authority to do so.

92. From this, and from the fact that the disease assumed a different type after leaving St. Helena, it is evident that the cause of the disease, affecting as it did alike crew and coolies, was in the ship, and was in all likelihood due to foul air and insufficient ventilation. With a free communication between the hold and the place in which the coolies slept, three bags of damaged rice are capable of evolving an amount of noxious gases quite sufficient to account for more sickness and deaths than happened in the "Eveline."

93. That men from the Chota Nagpore territory, who are termed junglies, but who are very valuable labourers everywhere, should have suffered most from confinement in such an atmosphere, is very probable.

These people live in forests, in the open air, and bear confinement of any kind very ill. In Indian gaols they rapidly pine and die, and they everywhere require more care and management than other classes of Indian emigrants.

Mr. Caird's caution to the commander pointed to this fact, and there is no proof in any of the documents recorded, that they were not in good health at the time of embarkation.

The assertion of Dr. Burrows that the contrary was the case is entirely unsupported, and directly at variance with his own certificate, which was signed when he could have had no motive for recording anything opposed to fact and truth.

Respecting the influence of cargo on health, I shall remark more at length in a subsequent section of this report.

15. "The Sir George Seymour."

94. The "Sir George Seymour" was 93 days on her voyage from Calcutta, and, out of 354 souls embarked, according to the certificate dated 28th December 1856, in good health, lost 10 men, eight women, five boys, and two girls.

The pilot's certificate, signed by Mr. Laing on the 30th of the same month, notes the death, during the passage down the river, of two men from cholera and dysentery.

The coolies were reported to be in a satisfactory state at Trinidad, and the inclemency of the weather was assigned as the chief cause of the mortality among the children.

95. The surgeon of the vessel deposed to the emigrants being in good condition when embarked; none were objected to on the score of sickness, but two were rejected as being aged, and were accordingly withdrawn.

The biscuits disagreed with them, because they were unable to digest it, in consequence of which many did not eat it.

The disease was principally acute dysentery, which prevailed most after a hurricane off the Mauritius, when the decks were constantly wet for some days. The disease was most severe in the wet weather, when the coolies could not be taken on deck. When the weather

weather became warmer the sickness diminished. The cargo consisted of rice, but there was no effluvium from it. Appendix, No. 4.

In the case of this vessel, no blame was attached to any one in India or elsewhere.

96. The "Merchantman" was not so fortunate, and reached her port in so deplorable a state, as to lead the chief authority at Demerara to confess, "that, looking to the class of ships on which the mortality has occurred, and to the character of the surgeons and officers employed on board of them, one is forced to the conclusion that there must have been something radically defective in the arrangements made at Calcutta for this season." 16. The "Merchantman."

97. The certificate, signed in Calcutta by Captain Brown, the commander, and Mr. Holman, the surgeon of the ship, reported all to be in good health, free from disease, and physically fit to undertake the voyage. The numbers embarked were enumerated as—

Men	239
Women	96
Boys	18
Girls	12
Infants	20
TOTAL	385

There is no exception recorded to any of the coolies, on any account.
The certificate is dated 8th February 1857.

98. The pilot's certificate of the 11th of the same month, signed by Mr. Laing, announced the death of one woman from cholera in the river; and mentions in the postscript that the commander and doctor report the coolies to be generally in a good state of health.

99. The mortality was most lamentable, having amounted, during the voyage and immediately after the arrival of the vessel, to 120 souls; viz. 59 men, 27 women, 10 boys, 8 girls, and 16 infants.
Of the deaths, there occurred in the—

1st week	6	from cholera.
2d week	16	„ „
3d week	6	„ cholera and dysentery.
4th week	5	„ fever.
5th week	4	„ „
6th week	3	„ dysentery and fever.
7th week	7	„ „ „
8th week	1	„ dysentery.
9th week	13	„ dysentery and fever.
10th week	5	„ „ „
11th week	9	„ fever and dysentery.
12th week	13	„ „ „
13th week	12	„ „ „
14th week	15	„ „ „

100. The crew suffered as well as the coolies, and while the commander, surgeon, and officers of the ship state the coolies to have been a poor lot, not a word of objection of any kind was placed on record in Calcutta. Mr. Holman objected to a few, who were taken back, with the exception of those belonging to families, proving so far that his wishes were attended to.
All the other statements referred to are emphatically denied by the persons who selected and embarked the coolies in Calcutta.

101. There is no record in the proceedings of the source of the supply of water or of the nature of the cargo, and the particulars regarding the diseases prevailing are most scanty. The register of the surgeon should have been sent to aid in any inquiry carried on in India.
The surgeon did not understand the language of the coolies, and although evidently a most painstaking, conscientious officer, was unacquainted with the peculiar management necessary for natives of India.

102. The typhoid fever and dysentery were most probably of the same type as occurred in the "Wellesley" and other vessels, and were not carried from Calcutta.
The other causes to which the casualties were attributed, I will notice hereafter. The only point for decision in the present place is, the state in which the emigrants were embarked.

103. Regarding this there are two diametrically opposite statements.
The written certificates of the surgeon and commander, and the personal testimony of the emigration officers at the beginning of the voyage would show that they were then in good health in Bengal. The pilot of the "Merchantman," an officer entirely unconnected with emigration, who has taken many vessels to sea with coolies, and is therefore familiar with their physical appearance, represents that the party on board appeared generally strong and healthy.

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Against this direct testimony, is the statement of the officers of the "Merchantman,' after arrival, that the emigrants were a poor lot, old and emaciated when put on board, and unfit therefore to undergo the risks of a voyage for what they had previously declared them to be perfectly fitted.

104. The balance of evidence in this case is certainly not on the side of the latter assertion. It is to be regretted that the log was not consulted to ascertain the state of the weather during the weeks in which the greatest sickness and mortality prevailed.

The state of the cargo and bilge of the vessel, and the communication between the hold and the main deck ought also to have been ascertained immediately on the arrival of the vessel in harbour, when such pestilential sickness was found to have prevailed.

105. The statement of the surgeon as to the filth between decks is sufficient to account for great sickness and mortality among the strongest and healthiest people in the world. That the results should be great in the case of the imperfectly clad and ill-nourished natives of Bengal, is not a matter of surprise, as vegetable feeders are at all times less capable of resisting the influence of animal and vegetable exhalations, and sudden and violent changes of temperature, than those nations who subsist on animal food.

17. The "Maidstone."

106. The "Maidstone" left Calcutta on the 27th of January 1857, with 375 souls on board, viz.:

Men	268
Women	68
Boys	18
Girls	10
Infants	11

There was no exception made in the certificate of the commander and surgeon to any of the coolies on the score of health or any other cause.

The pilot's certificate, dated the 30th of January 1857, mentions two deaths in the river, one of a man from cholera, the other of a female child from fever and diarrhœa.

The state of health of the coolies generally was stated, in the same return, on the authority of the commander and surgeon, to be good:

107. The deaths amounted to 92, viz. 65 men, 16 women, 3 boys, 4 girls, and 4 infants. The people were, according to the surgeon, tolerably free from disease in the early part of the voyage, and remained so until they passed the Cape, when dysentery and fever broke out, and produced the serious results above noted.

The theory of the surgeon as to the incubation and character of the disease is erroneous. It happened that Mr. Renton, who was a pupil of mine at the Calcutta Medical College, when I was professor of medicine, and first physician of the hospital attached to that institution, called upon me on his return from Europe, some time prior to my being required to conduct this investigation. In the course of conversation he mentioned to me the great sickness and mortality which had occurred in the "Maidstone," and the difficulty he experienced in accounting for it. He also mentioned his supposition of the latency of the disease and its character, but on requiring him to describe the latter more particularly, I ascertained that it was a genuine typhoid, and not in any way a malarious fever, and that his idea of its probable origin was altogether unfounded.

108. There is no reason to believe that the causes of the deaths in the "Maidstone" were different from those of the other ships already mentioned, nor is there any evidence to prove that a bad selection of subjects had been made in Calcutta.

18. The "Granville."

109. Next follows the ship "Granville," which left Calcutta with 309 souls on board on the 16th of February 1857; all, according to the certificate of the surgeon and the commander, in good health.

The pilot's certificate, dated the 17th of February, declares that no deaths occurred while she was in the Hooghly, and that the commander and doctor reported all to be in a good state of health.

110. She reached Trinidad, after a voyage of 110 days, on the 8th of June, and lost on the passage 37, or 11·97 per cent. of her emigrants, viz. 11 men, 13 women, 4 boys, 5 girls, and 4 infants.

The surgeon, Mr. Ellis, attributes this result to many of the people going on board sick, and to the dietary being such as they were unaccustomed to; but, beyond the mere assertion, affords no proof of the accuracy of either statement.

111. The people landed were pronounced to be "physically unexceptionable, inferior to none yet imported, and to have reached their destination in better order than any Indians received here [in Trinidad] during the last two years." The ventilation of the vessel was reported by the inspector of the health of shipping to have been "somewhat obstructed by the centre fittings."

The statements of Mr. Ellis are obviously inaccurate, and there is no ground in this case for attaching blame to the officers in Calcutta.

19. The "Burmah."

112. The ship "Burmah" sailed from Calcutta on the 1st of March 1857, with 326 coolies, all said in the certificate to have been embarked in good health.

The pilot on the 3d of March reported the deaths of a boy and a female infant from dysentery in the passage down the Hooghly, and appended to his certificate the usual statement of the commander and surgeon as to the health of the coolies being good.

113. She

113. She reached her destination after a passage of 119 days, with a loss of 49, viz., 21 men, 14 women, 4 boys, 2 girls, 4 male infants, and 4 female infants.

The emigrants are described as an unusually fine set, and to this is attributed the small amount of casualties, notwithstanding an unusual amount of bad weather, and long-continued exposure to a vitiated atmosphere below in consequence.

Mr. Caird avers that the same care and attention were bestowed on all the ships, as on the "Burmah," and appeals to this vessel as a confirmation of his statement that no care or precaution was omitted on his part, or that of the other emigration officers associated with him.

114. The mortality is, however, large, and in the absence of more detailed particulars regarding the ship, her cargo, and the diseases themselves, it is difficult to admit the absolute soundness of the conclusions arrived at by the Immigration Agent General.

While it is quite certain that the strong and vigorous will resist the effects of zymotic poisons better than the weak and delicate, the exact parallelism of the cases in which the comparison is instituted, must be established.

20. The "Scindian."

115. The last ship reported on is the "Scindian," which was 116 days on her passage to Trinidad. She sailed on the 7th of March 1857, with 288 men, women and children on board, all embarked in good health; and lost on the passage 66 souls, viz., 19 men, 14 women, 10 boys, 5 girls, and 12 infants.

The pilot's certificate reported no deaths, and that good health prevailed among the people embarked to the time of his leaving the vessel at sea.

116. The master and medical officer complained of the allowance of rice being insufficient, and of the biscuits disagreeing with the coolies. They also condemned the centre platforms.

The Agent General of Immigrants stated that "as this vessel under the same commander, with the same surgeon, and from the same port, arrived here last year with a mortality of only three men and one woman, the opportunity presents itself of ascertaining with some certainty how far the increased per-centage of deaths on board the coolie ships of this year depend on avoidable causes."

"The coolies per 'Scindian' were not quite equal to those per 'Granville,' but superior to the others of this year's arrival."

It is much to be regretted that the suggestion of the Agent General of Immigrants was not carried into immediate effect, and a searching inquiry instituted on the spot, as no means of determining the cause of the extreme difference between the results of two consecutive voyages to and from the same port, in the same vessel, and under the same officers, have been made known to me.

117. It certainly proves that exceptional causes, irrespective of bad selection in Bengal, were at work, but gives no clue to those causes, nor does the correspondence submitted to me enable me to consider this all-important question with a knowledge of the facts necessary to arrive at any very definite conclusion regarding it.

21. General conclusions from the above.

118. The consideration of the circumstances attendant upon the disastrous results which have led to this inquiry, and which are hereinbefore briefly analysed, warrant the following inferences:—

That the documentary and other evidence produced in Calcutta, show the duties of the emigration agency to have been conducted as carefully in the year under review, as in former years.

That the charge of the selection and embarkation of unfit and sickly subjects is based upon the statement of commanders and surgeons after the disasters had occurred; and that this statement is directly opposed to the written certificates signed by those gentlemen before the event.

That in some of the vessels there was gross negligence and dereliction of duty, quite sufficient to account for the mortality that occurred.

That in all, with the exception of the cases of cholera and diarrhœa which happened in the passage down the Hooghly, the diseases from which the chief sickness and mortality resulted, are diseases either unknown to or excessively rare in Lower Bengal, and such as could not have been taken on board by the coolies, either in a latent or an active state.

That the occurrence of cholera and diarrhœa during the passage from Calcutta to the Sandheads is not *per se* a proof that the people were embarked in bad health.

That the very heavy casualty list has increased since the introduction of platforms, and the use of biscuit as an article of diet; and since the increase of the proportion of women and children who accompany the coolies. To what extent these changes may have operated in producing increased sickness and mortality will be considered hereafter.

That in some of the ships, strong and weak, young and old, coolies and crew suffered alike; and that even in those vessels in which the emigrants were pronounced to be as fine a set as were ever landed in the West Indies, the sickness and mortality were considerably above the highest average of former years.

22 The conduct of the duties of the Emigration Agency in Calcutta.

119. The next point to ascertain is, whether the duties of the emigration agency in Calcutta are ordinarily conducted in such manner as to make reasonable provision against the occurrence

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occurrence of sickness on board, and to provide for the health and comfort of the emigrants on the passage. Likewise whether it is possible, when all parties act in good faith, that sickly, emaciated, and unfit persons can be embarked in the miserable state alleged by some commanders and surgeons to have occurred in the season of 1856-57.

120. The officers appointed to conduct the duties of the agency are, a Protector and Assistant Protector of Emigrants, an Emigration Agent, and a Medical Examiner of Emigrants. There is also an auditor of accounts, but as his duties are in no way connected with the present inquiry, they need not be further inquired into.

23. Emigration Agent.

121. The Emigration Agent lives at the depôt, and is charged with the duty of collecting and selecting the emigrants. Those for the Mauritius are chiefly obtained through the instrumentality of return coolies; those for the West Indies by paid recruiters, who are reported by Mr. Caird to be men of bad character, no respectable person being willing to undertake the office.

All arrangements connected with the food, clothing, lodging in Calcutta, engagement and embarkation of the coolies are under the immediate control of the Agent, subject to the supervision of the Protector and Assistant Protector of Emigrants.

I visited the agency at Bhowanipore, and ascertained by personal examination that the arrangements made for the comfort and protection of the coolies on their arrival in Calcutta, are all that could be desired, having special reference to the habits and customs of the classes to which they belong.

122. All persons who have any knowledge of natives of India are aware of the extent to which they suffer at first by transplantation from one district to another. To so great an extent are natives of Behar, Oude and Upper India generally affected by a residence in the alluvial plains of Lower Bengal, that sepoys, a strong, healthy, well-fed class, pine away and die in such numbers, as to have led to the relief of regiments of the line every two, instead of every three years. The corps sent to Burmah are decimated; and those serving in the eastern districts of Bengal are equally unhealthy.

The same fact is constantly observed with respect to convicts sent to Alipore, which immediately joins Bhowanipore, for transportation from all parts of the Punjaub and Bengal Presidency generally.

This is partly due to the change of diet from wheat to rice, as the staple article of consumption, but is generally attributed by the natives themselves to the difference in the air and water. To a vegetenarian race, whose physical powers are at all times feeble compared with the flesh-eating families of mankind, these influences are more palpably prejudicial than would *à priori* be supposed. Consequently if their vital powers are at all reduced by residence at the depôt prior to embarkation, although not actually labouring under disease at that time, they would suffer severely from any defects of ventilation or want of cleanliness on board. When disease, the result of foul air, finds its way into a body of people collected together, it is extremely difficult to eradicate it, without removing them entirely from the place in which the distemper occurs.

Thus, without any want of care and vigilance on the part of the Emigration Agent, the coolies of one season may have a greater proclivity to disease than those of another, from causes over which he can exercise no control, and which no human foresight can entirely provide against.

Whether such was the case during the cold season of 1856-57, cannot now be ascertained, as no records are kept at the depôt of the sickness that occurs there.

24. Duties of the Protector of Emigrants.

123. The chief function of the Protector of Emigrants is to see that the other persons connected with emigration discharge their duties faithfully and efficiently, and that all regulations regarding the emigrants are strictly observed. He especially regulates the survey of vessels chartered to carry coolies, which is performed by officers under his control, and otherwise quite unconnected with emigration.

As this office is usually held by an officer who has other important public duties to perform, his control is general, and does not ordinarily descend to the minute details of management and selection.

From the high character of the gentlemen who have occupied the Protector's office up to the time of the present inquiry, there can be no doubt that the duties are carefully and conscientiously discharged.

25. Duties of the Assistant Protector of Emigrants.

124. The Assistant Protector is the real controlling officer, and examines everything, from the first selection of coolies to their embarkation and departure. The gentleman who held this office during the period which is the subject of the present inquiry, died shortly after giving his evidence.

It is only just to his memory to record that a more careful, conscientious, and experienced officer could not have been employed in such an office. He was well acquainted with coolies, having frequently carried them to the Mauritius, and was one of the most successful commanders who ever sailed from the port of Calcutta. He emphatically declared it to be impossible for any one really very ill, emaciated, or unable to walk, to escape detection, from the extreme care with which the duty of selection is performed.

So far then as the ordinary physical characters of health are ascertainable by non-professional persons, the emigrants are first examined and passed by the agent; they are afterwards scrutinised by the Assistant Protector, and generally inspected in addition by the Protector.

125. Having passed through these preliminary ordeals, they are then individually submitted to medical examination. The absence of venereal diseases and ruptures, is ascertained by the native doctor of the depôt, and on the day immediately preceding embarkation, the examination of the medical officer is held. The nature of this duty is explained in the written statements of Drs. Scriven and Payne. At this examination, the surgeon who is to have charge of the emigrants is invited to attend, for the express purpose of seeing that the duty is properly performed, and that no person in an unfit state to embark is forced upon him. Although he can exercise no actual veto, his objections are usually attended to, and except in the case of old people, whose rejection would cause the rejection of valuable and serviceable families, those whom he considers unsound are remanded. The evidence of Mr. Chennell of the "Wellesley," and Dr. Stevenson, of the "Sir George Seymour," contain direct testimony of the manner in which the duty was performed with regard to two sets of the coolies who are the subjects of this inquiry. At the professional examination are also usually present the Emigration Agent and the Assistant Protector of Emigrants, so that an immediate decision can be given in all disputed cases.

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26. Medical examination of Emigrants.

The commander of the vessel is also invited to attend.

Each emigrant appears in turn, and every male is stripped to the waist when examined. Females are only subjected to the same ordeal when the appearance of the countenance or limbs indicates the probable existence of organic disease.

The individual certificates are signed by the medical officer, and a certificate of the whole batch is signed by the surgeon and commander. In addition to this the pilot who takes charge of the ship is required to furnish a health certificate, to see that no other persons are embarked in the progress down the river, and to ascertain the opinion of the surgeon and commander as to the state of health of their charge, after a more intimate acquaintance with them on board ship.

126. In the existing system the personal and pecuniary interests of the commander and surgeon are involved in the careful selection of emigrants, and it is difficult to suppose that they can ever sign an erroneous certificate on the subject.

Their evidence before is very much more valuable than their testimony after the fact, and where the two are in direct antagonism, the former is undoubtedly to be preferred.

In the evidence taken by me, some of the most experienced and trustworthy persons connected with emigration maintain that the occurrence of great sickness and mortality are due to neglect of duty on the part of commanders and surgeons. Hence the attempt to detach blame from themselves by transferring it to others has an obvious origin, and goes far to account for the contradictory statements of commanders and surgeons in Calcutta and in the West Indies.

127. But, supposing that all acted fairly in the matter, it is difficult to suggest any system of checks more complete than that in use, and if the medical examinations in the winter season of 1856–57 were conducted as carefully as those at which I assisted, I have no hesitation whatever in stating my belief, that no person labouring under serious sickness, or obviously unfit to bear the risks of the voyage, could have been embarked, save and except the old people mentioned in the correspondence.

The existence of the chronic forms of the endemic diseases of India are so stamped upon the frames of the natives of the country, as to render it impossible for the most careless observer to overlook them.

Simple cases of diarrhœa might possibly be concealed; but fever, dysentery, consumption, and cholera cannot be hidden from the experienced eye, or the tactus eruditus of officers of such acknowledged ability and professional acquirements as Drs. Scriven and Payne.

The slender form, lank limbs, and obvious muscular weakness of most natives of India, as contrasted with Europeans, might deceive officers so obviously ignorant of the typical characteristics of Bengalis, as were some of the commanders and surgeons, into the belief of their being a sickly set; but such testimony cannot for a moment be accepted against the opposite statement of those really qualified to pronounce a correct judgment on the subject.

128. Judging, then, of the past from the present, my conclusion on the second head of the inquiry is—

> That the mode of selecting and examining emigrants for the West Indies is such as to make every reasonable provision for a proper selection, and to render it impossible for weak, sickly, and unfit subjects to be sent, except in the case of old people whom it is not considered prudent or desirable to separate from their families.

129. The causes of the exceptional sickness and mortality of 1856-57, must be sought elsewhere than in any supposed selection of unfit and unhealthy subjects in India.

130. Having thus disposed, as far as the information and evidence accessible permitted, of the ill selection of emigrants as the chief ground of mortality during the year under review, the other causes to which it has been assigned must now be examined.

They are, the introduction of platforms; the absence of a sick bay, or special accommodation for the sick; the increased proportion of women and children; and the changes recently introduced in the diet of emigrants.

131. The evidence as to the influence of platforms on the health of emigrants is tolerably evenly balanced, some considering them a desirable innovation, others regarding them as impediments to ventilation, harbourers of dirt, and essentially unwholesome.

Platforms.

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132. Having carefully examined their construction and arrangement, bearing in mind that they are not used in emigrant vessels from Madras, and that since their introduction in Bengal, sickness and mortality have undoubtedly increased, I am disposed to concur in the latter opinion, and to recommend that the old plan of flush decks be resorted to at once.

133. The platforms are of bamboo-work, closely arranged, and raised about three feet from the deck. Upon them are chiefly placed the women and children, the men sleeping below.

134. It must be difficult, if not impossible, to clean them thoroughly in situ; they are very liable to harbour vermin, and sure to accumulate dirt; they certainly obstruct very materially and injuriously the air of the space beneath them; and thus, in my belief, are by no means unlikely to have added to, although they were probably not the chief agents in the production of, the mortality which has been in part attributed to them.

135. Indian women and children are more dirty in their personal habits than the men of the same race, and their sleeping above the men must have been productive of nuisances injurious to health, and destructive of cleanliness.

136. The opening of the ventilators directly upon the bodies of those sleeping under them on the platforms, as pointed out by the late Captain Wright, must undoubtedly have been injurious. I have myself witnessed acute attacks of fever, inflammation of the lungs, and quinsy caused by sleeping directly under a windsail on a hot and crowded deck.

137. If all could have slept on the platforms the evil would not have been so great, but even then I should regard them as of questionable benefit. It is a mistake to suppose that by arranging human beings in tiers, the amount of fresh air enjoyed by each is increased. The benefits derived by the upper tier are at the expense of those below them, and once typhoid fevers and such like diseases are developed in a confined space, all would suffer alike.

Absence of a sick bay.

138. The authorities in the West Indies are anxious that there should be a special sick bay, and some of them attribute a portion of the mortality to the absence of proper means of separating the sound and the affected during the existence of the contagious forms of fever and dysentery, which caused the greatest proportion of the deaths.

139. I concur in this opinion, and believe that had such means existed or been improvised in those ships which suffered most, much good would have resulted.

140. In ordinary cases it would not be necessary or desirable to separate those suffering from simple complaints from their families. The natives of India are a peculiar race, or rather aggregation of races, full of the most idle fancies, usually utterly regardless of the sufferings of others, and in many instances destitute of the commonest feelings of humanity. They are not deficient in natural affection, yet I have known them in their pilgrimages to Pooree and elsewhere to abandon their nearest and dearest relations to the vultures and the jackals, while yet alive, when they were too sick to travel further.

141. They would then, if not compelled, either refuse to resort to a sick bay, or suffer from neglect if taken there, unless sufficient means of treating and caring for them were provided.

142. One of the Madras regulations provides a sick bay on the lower deck, with a partition to afford the means of separating the sexes.

143. The late Captain Wright suggested that a place should be provided on deck for all serious cases of dysentery, small-pox, and similar diseases.

144. There can, I fear, be no doubt that the mortality, which is the subject of this inquiry, was much increased by the continuance together of the healthy and the sick, and that the means of separating them should form part of the arrangements of every ship carrying emigrants.

145. The sick bay should be near one of the hatchways, and should afford space for the accommodation of at least 5 per cent. of the number of adults embarked. In this should be placed, by compulsion if necessary, all who are seriously ill; and when contagious disease breaks out, a temporary place should be fitted up on deck as suggested by the late Captain Wright. By this means only can even partial separation and arrest of contagion be effected.

Increased proportion of women and children.

146. The Committee appointed to investigate the mortality of emigrants to the Mauritius were decidedly of opinion, that a cause of the increased mortality was attributable to the increase of women and children, whom it is more difficult to keep on deck, and therefore have the between decks clean.

147. This opinion is enunciated by Mr. Scriven, in the following terms: "I have already alluded to the enormous mortality amongst the women and children. Now it is a well-ascertained fact, that amongst masses of people at sea, the women and children always suffer more than men. The dirty habits of the Indian women and the difficulty of controlling them, while the men can be obliged to come on deck to obey the calls of nature, of course

course add greatly to the evil, interfering greatly with the cleanliness of the between decks, and thus doubtless affecting injuriously the health also of the men; accordingly, we find the per-centage of mortality great among the men, but high beyond all proportion among the women and children."

"Unfortunately the returns have not always been regularly sent from the West Indies, so that I find it impossible to trace, as I could have wished, the exact influence of cubic space, proportion of women, &c. on mortality. The voyages, however, certainly appear to have been less successful, since the minimum of women was raised to 33 per cent. in 1855, having been formerly 15 per cent., but even since that change there have been many prosperous voyages; indeed, of all vessels whose results have been recorded since 1851, I find only three approaching the mortality of those under consideration, viz., the "Canning" in 1855-56, which lost 14·37 per cent.; the "Bank of England," in 1852-53, which lost 12·86 per cent., and the "Apolline," in 1852-53, which lost 11·26 per cent."

"Seeing, then, that we cannot calculate with certainty on our emigrants being consigned to careful and vigilant superintendents at sea, we must turn our attention here, as in the case of cubic space, towards guarding against the evils of probable mismanagement; and for that purpose, I would recommend that fewer women be sent with each batch; I would say not more than 15 per cent of the whole."

148. Captain Bethune, of the "Shah Jehan," the surgeon of the "Adelaide," the late Captain Wright, assistant protector of emigrants, and Mr. Caird, all concur in the belief that the increase in the proportion of women and children has much augmented sickness and mortality.

149. The following tabular statement of the ships included in the present inquiry seems to bear out this view, for while the average mortality among the male adults was 12.39 per cent., that among the women was 18·58; among the boys, 28·08; of the girls, 36·30; and of infants, 55·91.

Names of Ships.	Number of People entertained.					Mortality among Males.		Mortality among Females.		Mortality among Boys.		Mortality among Girls.		Mortality among Infants.	
Season 1855-56.	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Deaths.	Per Centage.	Deaths.	Per Centage.	Deaths.	Per Centage.	Deaths.	Per Centage.	Deaths.	Per Centage.
Wellesley	254	84	13	11	20	10	3·94	6	7·14	–	–	2	18·18	4	20·00
Bucephalus	252	84	20	9	15	16	6·35	15	17·86	3	15·00	2	22·22	9	60·00
Robert Seppings	197	59	13	13	9	35	17·77	12	20·34	3	23·07	3	23·07	8	88·88
Roman Emperor	207	68	14	12	12	50	24·15	21	30·88	4	28·57	6	50·	7	58·33
Adelaide	213	62	10	8	11	7	3·29	9	14·52	–	–	2	25 00	7	63·63
George Seymour	238	75	21	5	15	10	4·20	8	10·66	5	23·80	2	40·00	11	73·73
Eveline	231	96	20	17	23	33	14·29	18	18·75	4	20·00	7	41·18	10	43·48
Maidstone	268	68	18	10	11	65	24·25	16	23·53	3	16·67	4	40·00	4	36·36
Merchantman	239	96	18	12	20	59	24·69	27	28·12	10	55·56	8	66·67	16	80·00
Granville	154	100	25	14	16	11	7·14	13	13·	4	16·00	5	35·71	4	25·09
Burmah	230	58	10	10	18	21	9·13	14	24·14	4	40·00	2	20·00	8	44·44
Scindian	156	81	21	14	18	19	12·18	14	17·28	10	47·62	5	35·71	12	75·00
Total	2,639	931	203	135	186	336	12·73	173	18·58	50	24·63	48	35·55	100	53·76

GRAND TOTAL - - - 4,100. - - - Deaths, 704. - - - Per centage, 17·17.

150. In the absence of any records of the mortality when the proportion of women and children was lower, it is difficult to estimate the exact extent to which the increase referred to, operated in producing so unfavourable a result as the table reveals.

The results are, in themselves, however, very striking, and deserving of the most serious consideration.

151. While on the one hand it is most desirable to encourage the emigration of families on political and social grounds; on the other, it is absolutely necessary to regard the sanitary results of the measure.

152. It would be out of place to dwell in detail upon the medical reasons for the greater liability to sickness and death of children at sea, when crowded together. The fact that they are so is undoubted, and it admits of satisfactory explanation.

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153. The excessive mortality among the infants and the young children is, in a great measure, due to the absence of proper food, and the constant care and attention which little beings in the beginning of life require.

154. From sea sickness, the unaccustomed life at sea, and the total change in their habits, women, with children at the breast, rapidly lose, and in the majority of instances do not again recover, their milk.

There is no supply of food fitted for infants furnished. Hence the excessive mortality recorded.

155. In the "Wellesley," in which there was a cow, Mr. Chennell informed me that the lives of many of the children on board were saved by the timely supply of a small quantity of milk. The fact is significant and suggestive.

156. The same causes operate in a minor degree with boys and girls under five years of age, for whom a sufficient supply of suitable food should be embarked.

157. Having, in the year 1851, accompanied a large number of return coolies from the Mauritius to Calcutta, I personally witnessed the extreme difficulty of compelling the women to habits of personal cleanliness. Compulsion was always necessary to make them bathe, and very frequently was forcibly resisted. It is not difficult to understand how fatally his must have operated in those vessels of the past season in which cleanliness was not strictly enforced.

158. I am distinctly then of opinion, that much of the sickness and mortality is fairly to be assigned to the increased proportion of women and children, the sickness among whom would rapidly react upon, and influence the health of the men.

Change in diet.

159. By some the increase of sickness and mortality was attributed partly to a change in diet. The only change which I can ascertain has been the introduction of biscuit; and although this could not have produced any very material influence on the result, I am of opinion that the change was not desirable, and that it should be discontinued.

Most of the experienced commanders prefer the old diet scale. If the introduction of biscuits were to secure a wholesome article of diet, to be used in bad weather, or when it was not possible to cook, that object would be better answered by laying in a stock of chubenee and choora, to which natives are accustomed, which need no preparation, and which they themselves use in long journeys and voyages, to save the trouble and expense of cooking.

160. Upon a careful examination of the question, added to my knowledge of the effects of diet upon the 25,000 prisoners under my general charge, I much prefer the Madras diet scale, and to it I am disposed to attribute a portion of the better health of emigrants from the Malabar and Coromandel coasts.

161. The following is the Madras scale for the West Indies:—

"The quantity of provisions allowed to each emigrant shall not be less than the following; two children, under the age of 10 years, being considered as equal to one person only:—

"Each Emigrant per day.

Rice	20 oz.	Turmeric	½ oz.
Dhall	4 „	Onion	2 „
Ghee	1 „	Tobacco	1 „
Salt	1 „	Chillies	½ „
Tamarind	2 oz.	Black pepper	1½ drachm.
Salt fish	2 „	Mustard seeds	½ „
Firewood	2 lb.	Garlic	½ „
Gingely oil	½ oz.	Coriander seeds	2 „

Water - - - - - - - 1 gallon.

"*Fresh Provisions.*—Sheep and goats, equal to one day's supply during every week of the voyage; yams and potatoes may, in a certain proportion, be supplied as a substitute for pumpkins; and as vegetables must be served out twice a week equal to a quarter of a pound per man, the whole quantity must accordingly be provided.

"Six sheep or goats to be supplied per every 100 men for the voyage.

"*Dry Provisions* for bad weather when the usual provisions cannot be cooked:—

"Each Emigrant per day.

Choorah or aval	1 seer, or 2 lb.
or biscuits	½ „ or 1 „
Bhoot gram or cuddeley	½ „ or ½ „
Sugar	1 chuttak, or 2 oz.

Eighteen days' stock of the above dry provisions to be laid in for the voyage.

"*Water.*—The water laid in should be of the purest description that can be obtained, and great attention should be paid to the sweetness and sufficient strength of the casks in which it is carried, and if new they should be charred.

"The casks should be constructed of staves of at least one inch in thickness for the ground tier, and of not less than three-quarters of an inch for the upper tier."

162. The

162. The above does not differ very essentially from the Calcutta scale, and will not exceed it in cost; yet, in my belief, it is more suitable, and will prove more wholesome. Appendix, No. 4.

The directions in regard to the water supply are important; should iron tanks be used, equal care and attention should be bestowed upon their cleanliness.

163. From this section of the inquiry I am disposed to deduce the following conclusions:— Conclusions from the above.

That the recent introduction of platforms has exercised a prejudicial influence on the health of emigrants.

That when typhoid fever, scorbutic dysentery, and similar diseases prevail in crowded ships, the absence of the means of separating the healthy from the sick, is prejudicial.

That the increase in the proportion of women and children has caused a considerable augmentation of sickness and mortality.

And that the introduction of biscuits, as a compulsory article of diet, has not been attended with good effect, and should be discontinued.

164. The only exception I would propose to the Madras diet scale is as regards natives of Behar and Goruckpore, for whom a supply of flour should be laid in, to make the chupatties or unleavened cakes, which is their customary diet. For them I would substitute eight ounces of flour for twelve ounces of rice, leaving the rest of the diet as it is in the scale mentioned. This would give them one meal of farinaceous food daily.

A healthy durwan or sepoy eats daily 24 ounces of chupatties, in the proportion of 16 for his principal meal, and 8 for his supper.

165. From the above considerations it will be seen that I attribute the great mortality and sickness under consideration to the neglect of proper sanitary measures on board; to the shipping of water of the Hooghly in some cases, when it is brackish and certain to cause sickness; and to the causes mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs. To these must be added the prejudicial influence of grain cargoes; the pollution of the bilge water of the ship with the filth of the between decks, and, in some cases, with damaged rice; and to imperfect ventilation. The combined causes of the exceptional mortality.

These are conditions, however, that have always been more or less in operation; and although they are, therefore, insufficient in themselves to account for exceptional mortality, they would certainly operate prejudicially when unusual sickness, from other causes, prevailed.

166. To what extent sanitary precautions were neglected with impunity in previous years, it is impossible to determine, from the entire absence of detailed or trustworthy records.

But where the increased proportion of women and children of itself was productive of greatly-increased sickness, it is not impossible that an amount of neglect, previously comparatively innocuous, would be followed by very serious and fatal consequences.

I am quite aware that this is not an entirely satisfactory solution of the question; yet it is the best that can be offered, where direct testimony is either hopelessly irreconcileable or altogether absent.

167. For the guidance of the future, rather than as throwing light on the past, it is desirable to consider the effects of grain cargoes on health, and the influence of brackish water and insufficient ventilation.

168. The evidence on this point is conflicting, and not a little perplexing. Many witnesses deny altogether that the health of coolies is in any way influenced by the cargo carried in the same ship with them. Others admit that rice and grain generally heat and give off unpleasant exhalations, but that this only occurs when they are damped, or leak into the bilge. Captain White, of the "Fiery Cross," mentions an instance in which a small quantity of grain, in the bilge water of the anterior compartment of that steamer, produced an exhalation that killed one person and nearly asphyxiated two others, who breathed it in a concentrated form. Mr. Chennell, surgeon of the "Wellesley," distinctly declares that the fatal cases in that ship happened among those who slept close to the hatchway, and were exposed to the steam rising from the hold. Cargo as affecting health.

169. On the other hand, it must be remembered that all emigrant vessels leaving the port of Calcutta carry grain cargoes, and that the mortality in a large proportion of them has been very small.

170. It has been supposed that the immunity of ships from Madras is due to the fact of their being ballasted with dry shingle or stones, but this turns out to be an absolute fallacy, as they also carry grain cargoes.

171. The truth, as stated by some of the most intelligent witnesses, lies between the two extremes.

172. So long as the cargo is dry and does not heat, it is perfectly wholesome. As soon as it becomes wet, or any portion of it leaks into the bilge, it undergoes fermentation, and disengages gases which are offensive to the senses, and injurious to health.

173. The chemical reason for this is simple, and easily explained. All organic bodies,* vegetable

* When deprived of life.

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vegetable as well as animal, undergo chemical changes from the combined action of heat and moisture.

In vegetable bodies this change constitutes the process known as fermentation, during which various gases, chiefly compounds of carbon and oxygen, and sometimes of sulphur, hydrogen, and nitrogen, are disengaged.

All of these are more or less injurious to health even when present in small quantities in the atmosphere; some of them are deadly poisons in a concentrated or a moderately diluted state. It has been ascertained that they may prove prejudicial even when not palpable to the senses.

174. The classes and types of disease caused by them are exactly the adynamic typhoid fevers and bloody fluxes, which destroyed so many of the coolies in the voyage to the West Indies, during the year which forms the subject of the present inquiry.

175. They are never known to cause the purely periodic diseases resulting from the marsh poison on land, and which are so deadly in their influence in the deltas of great tropical rivers or the alluvial plains of all countries south of the equator.

176. Where there is any communication between the hold and the main deck, by the law of the diffusion of gases, even those which are specifically heavier than atmospheric air find their way from the former to the latter, and assist materially in the deterioration of the atmosphere in which the emigrants live for the greater part of every 24 hours.

177. To this I attribute the unwholesomeness of all grain cargoes. Few ships are so tightly fitted as to prevent all communication between the hold and the main deck. In all emigrant vessels, there is a more direct communication by the scuppers communicating with the hold, through which all water used in washing the deck finds its way to the bilge.

178. In the valuable and interesting communication from Mr. Cowell inquiry is made as to the practical remedy for preventing the chemical changes referred to, particularly in the case of jute.

179. The remedy is the free access of air, and this can be accomplished in all ships at a cost that would be amply repaid by the improved state of the cargo, from a single voyage.

180. There should be, fore and aft, two ventilators of considerable size, running from the hold to the upper deck, without any communication with the between decks. These ventilators should be open in all weathers, as in the "Blue Jacket," and the cargo should be so stowed as to permit the general penetration of pure air and the easy escape of foul air.

181. In all ships carrying emigrants or troops, and laden with grain or sweating cargoes, the hatches should be air-tight, and there should be no communication with the hold, save and except through the ventilators above-mentioned.

The state of the bilge as a cause of unhealthiness.

182. The next subject of consideration is the state of the bilge of a vessel, as liable to influence the health of persons exposed to exhalations from it. To this I am of opinion may be attributed some of the unexplained outbreaks of cholera, fever, and dysentery, at sea, in large ships crowded with troops or emigrants.

183. The testimony of Captain White, of the "Fiery Cross," on this point, is of great value, and concurs with the views of the Sanitary Commissioners who examined the hospital ships in the Bosphorus during the late war.

184. In addition to the possibility of rice, grain, and such matters finding their way to the bilge, in coolie ships there is constant material for pollution in the remains of food unconsumed by emigrants, and dirt of every kind, which, when the main deck is washed, finds it way into the bilge through the scuppers.

185. The mixture of sea and fresh water in the bilge is said by Captain White to cause a disengagement of noxious gas; hence, as suggested by him, it should be carefully pumped out dry, after the water tanks and casks have been filled.

Influence of brackish water.

186. The bad effects of brackish water need scarcely, I think, be dwelt on further; its evil influence being universally known and acknowledged. During the season at which emigration to the West Indies is conducted, the water of the Hooghly is at all times of the tides more or less brackish off Calcutta, and no such water should ever be permitted to be laid in.

Insufficiency of ventilation.

187. Much as merchants and shipowners complain of the cost of ventilating coolie ships, the extent to which it is practised is, I am afraid, insufficient. Ports and scuttles are practically useless, as they are always closed in bad weather, and are too frequently so in all weathers. Windsails are of little use unless carefully trimmed. In addition to the existing ventilators, whenever it can be accomplished, a plank should be taken out of each side of the deck, as in the "Blue Jacket," under the long boat, and this should be so protected as to be open at all times and in all weathers.

Position of privies.

188. The privies should invariably be outside the ship, in the fore-chains, properly secured. The evidence on this point is clear, and concurred in by all who have any experience of emigrant ships. I have no doubt, that when diarrhœa, dysentery, or any similar diseases prevail to any extent, they are increased and aggravated by the effluvia from the necessaries

necessaries when placed within the bulwarks. In that position it seems to be nearly impossible to keep them perfectly clean and sweet, and to prevent their tainting the air of the deck to a most injurious and disgusting extent.

Medicines and medical comforts.

189. The supply of medicines and medical comforts appears to be ample. The only complaint recorded is that of the surgeon of the "Wellesley," who recommends an increase in the amount of opium. In ordinary circumstances the amount now allowed is ample; but it would certainly be insufficient on the occurrence of diarrhœa or dysentery to any great extent. It might, therefore, as a measure of precaution, be increased to the extent of doubling the amount of solid opium, leaving the allowance of laudanum and Jeremie's opiate as they are at present.

Emigration from Madras.

190. Having thus considered all matters relating to emigration from Bengal involved in the present inquiry, the question of the superior healthiness of emigration from Madras remains to be examined. Upon this point I consulted, by correspondence, the late Captain Biden, and Mr. Franklin, the Colonial Emigration Agent.

191. From these papers it will be seen that the checks are stricter in Calcutta than in Madras, where the duty of selecting, arrangements, &c., devolves almost entirely upon the agent. The system of recruiting is similar for the West Indies, and a depôt has now been established at Madras.

192. Captain Biden, whose knowledge of and experience in all such matters was very great, attributes the unhealthiness of emigrants, when it occurs, to want of cleanliness, crowded decks, insufficient ventilation, bad provisions, improper cooking of food, too much salt, and a lack of anti-scorbutics. He did not regard any particular class of men as more liable to sickness and mortality than another.

193. Mr. Franklin's impression is, that the people themselves are less susceptible of disease, none but the strong and healthy being selected.

194. The races of different parts of India differ as much from each other as the various nations of Europe. This difference is as apparent in physical development as it is in customs, language, and prejudices. It is impossible, therefore, to deduce any general conclusions from comparisons where the terms of comparison are essentially different.

195. The native of Madras is familiar with the sea before he embarks; the "black water" is an object of dread to every native of Bengal, who is therefore much more liable to succumb to depressing agencies during his first voyage.

196. Those commanders who have carried both assure me that the difference of behaviour on board of Bengal and Madras coolies is most striking. The Madrassee is a lively, singing, merry fellow, who delights in remaining on deck, seldom stays below if he can help it, day or night, is always ready to bear a hand in pulling ropes or any other work going on in the ship, and is much less troubled with prejudices of any kind.

197. The Bengali, on the other hand, is so much given to remaining below, that compulsion is necessary to bring him on deck. He rapidly gives way to sea sickness and depression; when taken ill, always imagines that he must die; and remains in an apathetic state of torpid indifference, the very reverse of the mercurial propensities of the Malabar.

198. From what I myself saw of emigrant labourers in the Mauritius and Réunion, a few years since, I believe this to be a true picture. Its influence on health, I need scarcely say, would be very great indeed.

199. The position of Madras again is much more favourable than that of Calcutta, and is without the very serious risk of the voyage down the Hooghly to the Sand Heads. To a person quite unacquainted with natives of India, the intense ignorance and stolidity of a Cole or a Dhangar must appear incredible; yet, it is undoubted, that if fresh water be not at hand, they will, if not prevented, swallow, apparently without a consciousness of its ill effects or bitter taste, a draft of brackish or salt water.

200. The water supplied at Madras must certainly be more wholesome than that pumped in alongside in Calcutta, and I consider their diet scale to be more wholesome, as mentioned before.

201. To the above reasons I am inclined to attribute the superior healthiness of Madras emigrants, and not to any superiority of the arrangements on shore, or on board vessels sailing out of that port. My belief is, that the Calcutta regulations are more stringent than, and quite as strictly carried out as those of Madras.

System of records.

202. The conduct of the present inquiry has been much embarrassed by the absence of proper records. Not only are the reports and returns kept on board in themselves meagre and insufficient, but they are rarely forwarded to the emigrant agent in Calcutta. The consequence is, that it is now impossible to determine what castes and classes are most liable to sickness and death, and which actually suffered most during the season 1856-57.

203. The means of accomplishing this are simple and inexpensive.

Appendix, No. 4.

204. In addition to the emigration certificate granted to each cooly, a general register of all embarked in each ship should be prepared in duplicate. It should contain the ship number, name, father's name, sex, caste, age, village, zillah, and pergunnah of every emigrant embarked man, woman, and child. One copy of this should be kept at the depôt in Calcutta, the other be given to the commander of the ship. For his or her identification at all times, each emigrant should be furnished with a small wooden ticket, to be hung round the neck, with the ship's number cut upon it legibly in English and Bengali or Hindustani figures. This should be produceable at all times. When sick, the number of the emigrant should be entered in his daily register by the surgeon, as hereinafter mentioned.

205. Upon arrival at the port of debarkation, in the column of remarks of the general register in the hands of the commander, should be entered the state in which the emigrants are landed, whether in perfect health, sickly, &c. Opposite the names of those who died on the passage should be entered "died," with the date of decease. This register should be signed by the commander, sent on shore immediately on arrival, and placed in the hands of the immigration agent general in the West Indies, for transmission to Calcutta.

206. The surgeon should keep two registers, one a daily journal, the other a special mortality record.

207. In the former should be entered daily the ship number, disease, and general treatment very briefly of every emigrant sick during the passage. Of those who die, a special mortality register should be kept in a separate form, specifying the ship number, name, sex, caste, village, and zillah, disease which caused death, and date of decease of every emigrant. These records should be signed by the surgeon, and likewise placed in the hands of the immigration agent general, for transmission to Calcutta.

208. To ensure regularity and correctness in those returns no payments of any description should be made until the general and mortality registers are examined, and their correctness ascertained by the emigration agent general and health officer of the port of debarkation. They should then be countersigned by those officers, with a declaration of their correctness, and be transmitted by the earliest opportunity to the agency in Calcutta.

209. The surgeon's general register should be retained as a record in the Colonial Emigration Office.

210. The exact forms of registers referred to are contained in the Appendix, No. IV., they should be printed and supplied by the emigration agent in Calcutta.

211. It would be difficult to exaggerate the importance of such a record, which can be kept with very little trouble, and will be of far more value than any statements of commanders and surgeons unsupported by the rigid testimony of trustworthy documents.

212. Lest they should be lost in transit, an authentic duplicate of the general and mortality register should be filed in the records of the immigration office of the colony which receives the immigrants.

General conclusions.

213. Having thus carefully considered the subject of inquiry entrusted to me in its bearings upon the heavy mortality of the year under review, and its relations to the prevention of such calamities for the future, the following is a summary of my general conclusions, viz.—

214. That the evidence as to the state in which the emigrants referred to were embarked in Calcutta, tends to disprove the assertion of some commanders and surgeons, and the strong suspicion of the colonial authorities that the great sickness and mortality were due principally to the primary selection of sickly and unfit subjects in Bengal.

That the general and medical arrangements of the depôt at Bhowanipore are such as to afford every reasonable precaution against the embarkation of persons unfit to undergo the risks of a voyage to the West Indies.

That the lamentable sickness and mortality under investigation were caused by the increased proportion of women and children, by the neglect of proper sanitary precautions on board most of the vessels, by the shipment of water of the River Hooghly when it was unwholesome, by the absence of the means of separating the healthy and the sick; by the change in the diet of the emigrants; by the absolute want of suitable food for young children and infants; by the presence of grain cargoes; by the probable foul state of the bilge; and in some instances, I fear, by the inexperience of the medical officers, in others by their being unable to communicate with the emigrants, and being unaccustomed to the treatment of the diseases of natives of India.

That the causes above enumerated operated in very various degrees, but that there is no evidence to show how far they were exceptional.

That the cause of the superior healthiness of Madras emigrants seems to be chiefly due to their being an entirely different race to Bengalies, and better suited to a sea life. The open roadstead of Madras, the absence of the voyage down the Hooghly, and the greater purity of the water laid in, with the more suitable diet, may also exercise some influence in producing a favourable result.

215. The

215. The remedies which I venture to suggest to prevent the recurrence of such lamentable sickness and mortality, are the following:—

I. The removal of platforms, and the restoration of the old flush deck.

II. A separate sick bay and the further means, when very great sickness prevails, of placing persons suffering from contagious diseases, on deck.

III. The adoption of the Madras diet scale, with the exception noted; and the laying in of suitable food for young children and infants.

IV. The diminution in the proportion of women and children to 25 per cent. If possible, it is desirable not to embark pregnant females or those who are nursing infants at the breast.

V. The absolute prohibition of the water of the Hooghly being pumped in alongside off Calcutta from the 1st of November to the 15th of June.

VI. The improvement of the ventilation of the hold and between decks in the manner suggested.

VII. The purification of, and attention to the bilge of the vessel. A supply of Sir William Burnett's disinfecting fluid should be carried by every vessel.

VIII. It being compulsory on a certain proportion of the emigrants, at least a third, remaining on deck, whenever it is practicable.

IX. The proportion of Topazes being increased to 1 per cent. of the whole number embarked, children counting as units.

X. The selection of medical officers with some knowledge of the treatment of the diseases of natives of India; and of such only as are capable of understanding the coolies.

Young surgeons fresh from Europe, and youths who have just completed their professional education, should not be employed in this duty.

XI. An improved system of records, which it should be incumbent on commanders and surgeons to keep, and on colonial immigration authorities to transmit to Calcutta without delay.

XII. The increase of the amount of solid opium to double the present quantity.

XIII. The placing of the privies securely in the forechains outside the vessel.

216. It is deserving of consideration whether it would not be desirable to employ a different class of vessels for the conveyance of emigrants. The experience of the past year has shown the incalculable advantages of large and powerful screw steamers in the transport of troops. Similar advantages would, in my belief, result from the use of such vessels in the transport of coolies. They could always put to sea in one day, and the rapidity of the voyage would much diminish its risks.

Whether it would pay, as a commercial speculation, is a question which I am unable to determine.

217. I am distinctly and decidedly of opinion, that the great sickness and mortality of 1856-57 need not recur; that, whether exceptional or not, they can be prevented by proper care and attention; and that there is no need to prohibit the continuance of emigration, on grounds either of humanity, or of policy.

218. The penalties for neglect of proper sanitary arrangements on board should be more stringent than they are; and the examination of the condition of both ships and emigrants should be more minute and searching, at the ports of debarkation, than they appear to be at present.

I have, &c.
(signed) *F. Mouat*, M.D., F.R.C.S.,
Inspector of Jails and Dispensaries, Lower Provinces.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

(No. 102 of 1857.)

Our Governor General of India in Council.

Para. 1. WE transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Under Secretary at the Colonial Office, dated 6th July 1857, with its enclosure, from the Commissioners of Emigration calling attention to the great mortality which has occurred during the past season among coolie emigrants on the passage from Calcutta to the West Indies. From the report of the Commissioners it appears that on nine of the ships which sailed from Calcutta containing 3,171 emigrants, there died on the voyage 561 or 17·6 per cent., the smallest mortality occurring in the "Wellesley," in which 22 or 5·7 per cent. died out of 382, the largest on the "Merchantman," in which 114 or 29·6 per cent. died out of 385. In the previous years the largest average mortality since 1850, that of 1855-6, amounted only to 5·8 per cent., almost the same as the smallest mortality of the last season, while the average of the six years would not exceed 3·7 per cent. This mortality is not attributed to negligence or inhumanity on the part of any officer of the emigrant vessels, nor to any unfitness of the

Appendix, No. 4.

vessels themselves for the purposes for which they were taken up; some of the internal arrangements, indeed, for increasing the means of ventilation and the better arrangements of the necessaries on board still call for improvement, and the want of separate hospital accommodation is again brought to notice, but the vessels seem on the whole, to have been well adapted for the service, and it is not to these circumstances, however, much for the comfort and well being of the emigrants they may need reform, that the present lamentable mortality is to be referred. The evil appears to have originated in the depôt itself, sickness is said to have prevailed there, the deaths commenced in some vessels before they had left the Hooghly, and in many instances the emigrants are described as being in a miserably emaciated state, and totally unfit to endure a long sea voyage. It must be borne in mind, too, that the emigration from Madras, which is conducted under the same laws and regulations, has during the past season been remarkably healthy. Everything, in fact, points to the condition in which the coolies were put on board as being the real cause of this great evil, and we desire that you will take immediate steps for thoroughly investigating the matter either by the appointment of a committee for the purpose, or by such other measures as you may deem best calculated for arriving at the cause of the evil, and for its prevention in future.

We have, &c.
(signed) *Ross D. Mangles.*
F. Currie.
C. Mills.
and other Directors.

London, 22 July 1857.

(No. 1.)

REPORT by Dr. *Scriven* on the West India Mortality.

Sir, General Hospital, Calcutta, 21 July 1857.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 190, of July 7, forwarding copies of reports recently received from Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, relative to the unusual mortality that occurred among the coolies sailing from Calcutta to the West Indies, on board the ships "Eveline," "Bucephalus," "Sir Robert Seppings," and "Roman Emperor," during the season 1856-57, and requesting a special report upon the subject, with my opinion as to the causes. The mortality appears to have been as follows:—

	Number of Souls on Board.	Mortality.	Per-centage.
Eveline	387	72	18·60
Bucephalus	380	45	11·84
Robert Seppings	291	61	20·96
Roman Emperor	313	88	28·11

	Per-centage of Mortality of Men to Strength of Men.	Per-centage of Mortality of Women and Children to Strength of Women and Children.
Eveline	not given.	not given.
Bucephalus	6·34	22·65·
Robert Seppings	17·76	27·65
Roman Emperor	24·15	35·51

With these data before me, I beg leave to submit the following observations:

Embarkation of Coolies.

1st. I consider that every possible care is always taken to embark healthy people; the doctor of the ship attends at the medical examination, and in every instance, as well as I remember, his consent has been given to the embarkation of each individual, as evidenced by his initials at the head of every certificate which he is always requested to sign, to show that he approves of the emigrant.

2d. A few old people, or such as are hardly capable of labour, are occasionally embarked in order not to break up a large family, or for similar reasons; a remark to the effect being made on the ticket, or the cause notified by letter.

3d. Besides the final examination by the medical examiner, the emigrants are first examined by the native doctor; moreover, those who live at the depôt are kept under his surveillance during their stay there; and his report of their state of health at my final examination always receives due attention; but as there are a considerable number that cannot be made to reside at the depôt, their health must necessarily be decided on at the time.

4th. It

4th. It is quite impossible for the native doctor to be perfectly acquainted with the state of health of every one of a large number of coolies, especially as they are, generally speaking, anxious to conceal their maladies, and this for two reasons; 1st, because the natives of India are, as a rule, averse to the European mode of medical treatment; and 2d, because they know, that if discovered to be sick, they will not be allowed to embark. Appendix, No. 4.

5th. These two causes likewise diminish the efficacy of the final examination of the medical examiner, as the word of a native so prejudiced, cannot be depended on, and nothing remains to guide the doctor except the absence or presence of physical signs of disease; and of some diseases, there are none at first; thus, if a man have diarrhœa of a day's standing, he may appear to the doctor to be in perfect health, none but himself being cognizant of the fact that he has had more frequent evacuations than usual. Now this very disease, so insidious in its onset, and so readily concealed, is not only a serious one in itself, but is the very form in which the still more fatal ones, dysentery and cholera, generally begin.

6th. It is likely that a certain number of the coolies on every emigrant ship are accustomed to the use of opium, and that, when deprived of the habitual stimulus, they immediately begin to suffer from bowel complaint. This habit, of course, is easily concealed.

Working under these disadvantages, which are irremediable, the medical officer can only certify that the men are, "to the best of his knowledge and belief," in good health; and as this is done within a few hours of embarkation, in order that the doctor's report may be, as nearly as possible, a true index of the people's state at the time of going on board, I do not see that further precautions can be taken.

As the above has ever been the mode adopted for the examination of the emigrants, and, as I think, all connected with the depôt will bear me out in the assertion, that the medical officer has certainly not relaxed his vigilance in the task, it is evident we must look for some other cause for the increased mortality of the past year.

The diet of the coolies is, in my opinion, as near that to which they are accustomed, as their altered circumstances from shore to shipboard will admit of. There is no doubt of its sufficiency in quantity, nor has any objection been raised to it on that ground. It has been somewhat altered from the original diet, so as to admit of the coolies having two meals per diem instead of one, which must universally be allowed to be an improvement. During fine weather, the native would live almost in his usual manner; the biscuit, as a substitute for cakes, is indeed the only deviation from his habitual diet, and this an unimportant one, both being made of wheat. The two kinds of dhall (a species of pea) form a daily article of food for the native on shore, and agree well with him. It is only when weather is so bad as to prevent cooking that the people are deprived of their accustomed food, and biscuits and sugar are served out instead. How different is the practice with large bodies of Europeans at sea, sailors or recruits, who are at once put upon salt provisions, with little or no vegetables, and yet, says Dr. Edmonds, "lately I had charge of 248 convicts from England to Australia without losing one of them," whereas on board the "Roman Emperor" he lost 88 out of 313, during a voyage of 87 days. I think, then, we cannot attribute this enormous mortality to the diet. Diet.

An ample supply of medicine is always provided for the coolies, and no complaint has been made as to its quantity or quality. Medicine.

The statistics of the General Hospital have been lately examined for the last five years, and the result, compared with that of a similar investigation for the 30 years from 1808 to 1838. Now during the period from 1808 to 1857, medical practice has undergone the greatest possible change; treatment was formerly pursued so opposite to that of the present day, that if the latter be right, the former must have been worse than useless; yet our mortality is diminished only 1·65 per cent.; the deaths from 1808 to 1838 being 10·27 per cent.; from 1852 to 1857, 8·62 per cent.; therefore, I believe, that no amount of carelessness or ignorance in the administration of medicine, can have produced the terrible mortality of the coolies. Medical treatment.

The diseases which caused the mortality appear to have been principally dysentery, typhoid fever, and cholera. A question might arise, can any of these have struck the ships as epidemics? The first, dysentery, we may exclude, as it is always endemic, *i.e.* is produced by causes existing among the people that suffer from it. The second, typhoid fever, sometimes appears on shore in a form which almost deserves the name of epidemic, passing from town to town and village to village, but as it is propagated by contagion, it is difficult to prove that it is ever truly epidemic. I am not aware, however, that it has ever been known to sweep the world, crossing the ocean, and attacking ships in their course; it is in fact, as a rule, if not always, essentially an endemic. Cholera is well known to be sometimes epidemic in the widest possible sense, yet such epidemics of cholera are only of occasional occurrence: when they do occur, they are well known and recognised as such, but none that I remember occurred last year. The cholera, therefore, that broke out on board these ships must have likewise been endemic. Disease causing mortality.

What are the endemic causes of these three diseases? Noxious emanations from decomposing vegetable and animal matters, particularly the latter, and bad ventilation: they are emphatically diseases of filth and impure air. Having thus excluded all other causes worth taking into account, it appears to me that to these we must look as the productive elements of disease on board the ships reported on. The very high mortality would at once suggest it, and the fact of the per-centage being so much greater among the women and children, than among the men would confirm the idea, in consequence of the greater difficulty of enforcing a proper Causes of disease.

Appendix, No. 4.

a proper regimen amongst the latter, as well as from their feebler constitutions rendering them less less able to resist the evil influence of a poisoned atmosphere.

The natives of India, particularly the jungly people, are excessively dirty and lazy in their habits, and would, no doubt, become still more so at sea, where cleanliness would cost a little more trouble than on shore.

However well ventilated the lower deck of a ship may be, it is obvious that the atmosphere cannot be as pure as in the open air, in which the natives always spend a large portion of their time; and their dirty habits, especially when increased by circumstances of ship-board, would tell upon their healths with great virulence; so that, I think, it is incumbent on captains and doctors of ships, to have one-third of the emigrants always upon deck: such a rule is considered essential to the health of European recruits, and, I should say, is even more necessary for natives; but it is obvious from the captain's own statement, that this was not attended to on board the ship "Bucephalus:" "the coolies," he says, "were allowed to remain below too much, and were only compelled to be on deck twice a week."

Cleanliness.

With regard to cleanliness, the captains and doctors of ships are, perhaps, better judges than I am, of whether their establishments are sufficient to ensure it; it would appear, however, from the result of former years, that cleanliness sufficient to prevent the access of serious disease can be attained; for, says Mr. Austin, in his letter now before me, dated March 12th 1857, "for years we have carried on emigration from the east with such success as apparently to require no hospital, and as if no disaster could occur." Passing over, however, the difficulties which we may admit were great, there remains abundance of proof from the admissions of the captains and doctors themselves of the foul state in which the ships and coolies were kept. In the journal of the surgeon of the "Bucephalus" is this remark, says Mr. Austin, with reference to one of the men who died, "it was only from the filthy state of his billet that he was found out;" of another it is reported, "worms were actually crawling amidst filth in his clothes." Again, the captain says, "many of the coolies voided their excrement in their clothes, and on the spot where they slept, which could only result, as it did, in the most abominable stench through the lower deck in the morning: again, "every thing had been done by himself" (the captain), "to secure cleanliness, by having the closets cleaned"!!! Was this all the care the captain took of his living cargo? "did not like to interfere with the emigrants; did not consider it incumbent on himself to require such energy on the part of the doctor as would have secured greater cleanliness."

"Those embarked," says the doctor of the same ship, "were filthy in the extreme, as well in their persons as their habits, voiding and carrying their excrement for days in their clothes."

"The vessel," says the captain of the "Roman Emperor," "was so filthy from the sea-sickness and dysentery during the gale, that the crew refused to go down at first."

"The topases,"* says Dr. Edmonds of the same ship, "were also very sick, so that there was much difficulty in removing the nuisances from the deck. By the second week dysentery cases were very numerous, and the dirty habits of the people extended the disease:" again, "the predisposing causes were their natural filthy habits, the evil of which was increased by the difficulty of finding topases to remove the filth as soon as found."

On board ships, where the sanatory arrangements were evidently so imperfectly carried out, it is no matter of surprise that sickness was so prevalent. Dr. Burrows of the "Eveline," though evidently very anxious to ascribe the disasters of the voyage to some bad management of the coolies on the part of the emigration agent has, most unfortunately for himself, stated, that "one sailor died in four hours, and every one, from the captain to the cabin-boy more or less suffered." Is not this the strongest possible evidence that the causes of sickness were on board? for Dr. B.'s remarks with regard to the bad arrangements for the emigrants before they started, and their diet cannot of course apply to the captain and ship's company, who obviously suffered, in common with the others, from the foul emanations from the lower deck.

Origin of disasters.

The above observations appear to me to point to the internal management of the ships as the origin of the disasters on board of them.

I believe the emigrants would do very well without any medical treatment, that is to say, other things being equal, there would scarcely be any difference between the mortality of a cargo of coolies with both doctor and medicine, and one without either; but, I believe, that the difference between good ventilation, with scrupulous cleanliness, and absolute neglect of sanatory precautions, would prove so great as scarcely to be estimated; for confinement in the midst of filth and foul air, tells not only in the development of actual disease, but by slowly undermining the constitution, producing weakness, emaciation, unfitness for labour, and liability to disease. Is it a wonder then that we find in the report of the emigration agent and health officer on the coolies from the ship, "Bucephalus," the following remark: "Those coolies allotted to the estates were, on the whole, much emaciated, and anything but favourable specimens of the cooly race!"

To show the value of sanatory precautions, I may remind you of the American ship, "Kate Hooper," which left this port for the Mauritius with coolies on August 18th, 1855. There were 444 souls on board; the mortality was five or six.

On the 22d of the same month sailed the "Sultana," with 453 souls. Her mortality was twenty-four coolies and eight of the crew. Now these two ships may be fairly compared, sailing within four days of each other, having almost the same number of coolies on board,

* Sweepers for cleaning the vessel.

board, the cargo being made up as it were from the same batch, so that, had there been disease among them, it would probably have been the same for both; but what makes the contrast more remarkable is the fact, that the "Kate Hooper" had not a single port or scuttle, whereas the "Sultana" had ports from stem to stern, besides every other facility for ventilation; but then the "Kate Hooper" was a model of good management. "I found her," says the protector of emigrants at the Mauritius, "in a remarkable state of cleanliness;" and I doubt not it would be found, if close inquiry were made, that the windsails were carefully attended to, that all on board were obliged to wash and bathe daily, and that a considerable proportion of the people were kept constantly on deck. Appendix, No. 4.

With regard to ventilation, I have no evidence of its inefficiency on board these four ships, except from the diseases engendered; but I know that it is most difficult to persuade captains to attend properly to it, as the chief ventilators, and those most constantly available, viz. the windsails, require to be adjusted to every change of wind. Scuttles are often closed from necessity, and are seldom opened when that necessity ceases. "To take ports or scuttles into consideration," * says Dr. Wilson, "in estimating the means of ventilation, is a delusion; practically they are useless at night, and often during the day." The instance just related of the "Kate Hooper" shows how much can be done without them. A complaint is made about the smallness of the scuttles on board the "Roman Emperor." This would, perhaps, appear of less importance, if we could learn precisely how often they were open during the voyage. If windsails be large enough, and numerous enough, a very free circulation of air can be kept up upon the lower deck by constant attention, in order te keep them well trimmed; but this, I fear, we can scarcely expect from such commanders and medical officers, as some of those above alluded to. Ventilation.

I have heard the water of the Hooghly, which is taken on board as drinking-water, objected to as a cause of the bowel complaints; yet the same water has ever been used for the same purpose in vessels that have carried their emigrants with almost no mortality, and is daily used for the numerous passenger ships that leave the port without any bad results. However, there is no doubt, that it is slighily brackish, and that tank water would be better for the coolies.† Water.

No objection has been made to the space allotted to each cooly, viz. 72 cubic feet to every adult, and 36 to every child under 10 years of age. This is more than is allowed for European troops, viz.: 66 cubic feet per man, but it must be remembered that both of these are increased considerably by the deduction of hatchways, &c., and by the fact of the height between decks being always reckoned at 6 feet, whereas most vessels are 6½, and some 7. Moreover, it often happens on the cooly-ships that all the available superficial space is not taken up, as was the case on board the "Wellesley" and "Bucephalus" last season, both of which had, nevertheless, a very high mortality, though the cubic space must have been greatly above regulation. Space.

The breathing space, however, enjoyed by Europeans, is only rendered sufficient by one-third of them being always upon deck, which is not the case with the coolies, though it ought to be; and, I fear, seeing the apathy of the captains and doctors that have charge of them from time to time, and the real difficulties attending it, we can never hope to ensure so desirable an arrangement. I cannot help thinking, therefore, that it would tend greatly to the preservation of health of the native emigrants, that the actual measured cubic space, exclusive of hatchways, masts, deck beams, &c., should be extended to 96 cubic feet for every adult, and 48 for every child under 10 years of age.

For the same reason, I am of opinion, that an increase in the number or calibre of windsails regulated according to the number of people, would be conducive to health. Windsails.

I have already alluded to the enormous mortality amongst the women and children. Now it is a well ascertained fact, that amongst masses of people at sea, the women and children always suffer more than men. The dirty habits of the Indian women, and the difficulty of controlling them, while the men can be obliged to come on deck to wash and to obey the calls of nature, of course add greatly to the evil, interfering with the cleanliness of the between decks, and thus doubtless affecting injuriously the health also of the men. Accordingly, we find the per-centage of mortality great among the men, but high beyond all proportion among the women and children. High mortality among women and children.

Unfortunately, the returns have not always been regularly sent from the West Indies; so that I find it impossible to trace, as I could have wished, the exact influence of cubic space, proportion of women, &c. on mortality. The voyages, however, certainly appear to have been less successful, since the minimum of women was raised to 33 per cent. in 1855, having been formerly 15 per cent., but even since that change, there have been many prosperous voyages; indeed of all the vessels whose results are recorded since 1851, I find only three at all approaching the mortality of those under consideration, viz. the "Canning" in 1855-56, which lost 14·37 per cent., the Bank of England in 1852-53, which lost 12·86 per cent., and the "Apolline" in 1852-53, which lost 11·26 per cent.

Seeing, then, that we cannot calculate with certainty on our emigrants being consigned to careful and vigilant superintendents at sea, we must turn our attention here, as in the case

* Dr. Wilson's "Guide to health in troop ships and emigrant vessels."

† Since writing the above, I have learnt that some of the most experienced men in the coolie-trade are of opinion that the stipulated amount of fresh water is frequently not served out to the coolies. If this be the case, it is probably a most fruitful source of sickness; for an ignorant up-country native would have no hesitation in drinking the salt water if fresh were deficient.

Appendix, No. 4.

case of the cubic space, towards guarding against the evils of probable mismanagement; and for that purpose, I would recommend that fewer women be sent with each batch; I would say not more than 15 per cent. of the whole.

Increase of numbers increases per-centage of mortality.

It is said that the increase of numbers on board a ship increases the per-centage of mortality, though the cubic space allowed for each individual be not diminished. The cause of this has not been fully made out; but we seem almost to return to the sanatory precautions, as the real element in preserving health; "for though, generally speaking,"* says Dr. Wilson, "the greater the number in one ship, the more sickly it is, exceptions are numerous, and how to account for these in emigrant ships I know not, unless we assume that they are partly occasioned, first by the favourable construction of particular vessels by arrangements and by superior judgment, tact, and the influence of particular surgeon superintendents, enabling them to exert a more salutary discipline, so much more required in a crowded vessel." As, however, these excellent qualities do not shine pre-eminently in some of our surgeon superintendents, perhaps it would be safer to embark only 250 people at a time.

It only remains for me to notice certain statements contained in the documents before me, by the captains and doctors of the ships, which seem to have been framed with the view of exonerating themselves, rather than of assisting the investigation of the truth; also the report of the emigration agent and health officer on the "Bucephalus," and that of the committee on the "Robert Seppings" and "Roman Emperor."

I take the papers in order, selecting only those passages not already replied to.

No. 1.

Dr. Burrows, of the "Eveline," states "that our coolies were not long enough at the depôt to undergo the necessary cleansing, and that cholera was endemic amongst them."

The necessary cleansing, as far as I am aware, consists in taking a bath and putting on a clean suit of clothes, the work of an hour, without which, I believe no cooly is ever embarked.

As sporadic cases of cholera are perpetually occurring in Calcutta, it is quite probable that the seeds of it may have been sown in some cases before leaving, but these must have developed themselves within a few days, and cannot by any means account for such a mortality as 72 out of 387. The official report indeed from the Sand Heads, signed by Dr. Burrows, states that two deaths only had occurred up to the time of the pilot leaving, and has the following postscript.

"The commander and doctor report the coolies to be generally in a good state of health."

"I am of opinion," continues Dr. Burrows, "also that marching them in the middle of the night from the depôt to the place of embarkation, several miles distant, was not judicious."

The place of embarkation is two miles distant: the coolies never start before 4 A.M. I certainly was never before aware of the terrible consequences likely to result from getting up for once at that hour and marching two miles. I have been with native troops starting at 2 A.M., and marching 10 miles day after day, without any bad effect, and that upon empty stomachs, whereas the coolies had had a full meal before they left the depôt, which accounts for the otherwise apparently extraordinary statement that follows, viz.: that the coolies had no food for 24 hours after embarkation, except their biscuit and rum.

The matter of the diet during the voyage has been already disposed of.

No. 2.

Contains Mr. Austin's letter with reference to the "Bucephalus." The points touched upon in it, I shall have occasion to allude to hereafter.

No. 3.

The captain of the "Bucephalus" states "that many of the people put on board were miserably emaciated by starvation."

None such have ever been passed by me; they may have appeared emaciated to a lusty English captain, as the natives of this country are small men, less muscular than Europeans, and living chiefly on vegetable diet.

The doctor states "that a race of coolies, called junglies, had been improperly placed on board."

Of these jungly people, a large proportion of our emigrant coolies always consist. They are, as Mr. Austin observes, "the best labourers," and do very well on board-ship, if cleanliness and good ventilation be enforced, as the result of former years proves.

The means of cooking medical comforts deficient.

Nothing but an ordinary saucepan is necessary for cooking sago: this surely must have procurable on board: the means of making soup, &c. should likewise have been provided by the captain.

No hospital nurses.

No such attendance is allowed even to our European soldiers, who, when sick, are attended only by coolies of similar class to many of the emigrants, who should have been made to attend upon each other.

Privies recommended to be placed outside.

I believe they have almost always been inside, even on the most successful voyages, but I think they would be better outside if possible.

In the report by the emigration agent and health officer on the "Bucephalus," I find the following subjects for remark; —sickness attributed to total absence of hospital accommodation;

I see no objection to the formation of a separate hospital; but I believe that, breathing the pure air of the open sea, the emigrants ought, by judicious management, to be kept in a state of health such as to require but little medical treatment; yet it must be allowed, that the odour arising from a sick man is often anything but wholesome; moreover, the moral effect of the presence of a person very ill or dying is obviously bad.

—purest air next the deck—platforms objectionable.

I am much surprised at the first of these assertions, as the report bears the name of the health officer signing himself M.D. He should certainly have

* "Guide to health in troopships and emigrant vessels."

have given us the process of argument by which he arrived at a conclusion so directly opposite to the first principles of Hygiene.

Does he not know that the carbonic acid of the expired air is the principal element of contamination of the atmosphere breathed by masses of living beings, that it sinks from its weight, and, if left at rest, remains in the lowest stratum of air? The converse of his proposition, therefore, is the true one, viz. that the most impure air is closest to the deck: it was for this reason chiefly, I presume, that platforms were given to the coolies, as by their means half the people are raised well above the lowest stratum of air, and therefore breathe a purer atmosphere; also to allow of a freer circulation of air round each individual: there is therefore no doubt theoretically that the platforms are a vast advantage. If, however, it can be shown that they materially interfere with the cleansing of the ship, it is possible that the advantages may thus be counterbalanced. I would recommend inquiry from the captains of ships on this subject.

Why, I would ask, was Dr. Crawford's examination only a nominal one? He was not requested to be present in order to make a nominal examination, but to record his opinion, and attest his approval of each individual coolie, by affixing his initials to every card. It is quite true that I had power to overrule his objections, but I certainly had not power to enforce his recording an opinion agreeable to mine. If, therefore, he disapproved of any, why did he not withhold his signature? I do not remember at this distance of time whether any difference of opinion did arise between Dr. Crawford and myself: the only way of ascertaining would be by reference to the cards, when, if it be found that all of them bear both signatures, there will be proof either that Dr. Crawford agreed with me in every case, or that he made so careless an examination, as ought for ever to disqualify him for any responsible charge hereafter.

No. 4.

Dr. Crawford, surgeon of the "Robert Seppings," states, "there was a nominal examination made by me prior to embarkation, but the real power was vested in the doctor at the depôt, by whom all objections in reference to the emigrants were overruled."

I have already shown that the coolies are, as far as possible, kept under medical surveillance.

Fever is a disease in most cases readily detected by the heat of the skin, and I see no complaints in any of the papers before me of the coolies being embarked suffering from fever.

I have explained the difficulty of guarding entirely against the existence of diarrhœa, which may run into dysentery.

Dr. Edmonds, of the "Roman Emperor," says, "the coolies intended for embarkation should be kept separated for a time, and under the special surveillance of the medical officer, and not embarked if fever, dysentery, or any contagious disease occur amongst them."

With regard to contagious diseases, I really know of none except small-pox, chicken-pox, measles, and hooping cough, to which the natives about here are subject, and I have never heard of a case of any one of these on board the emigrant ships. The fevers of this country and dysentery are well known to be non-contagious, and cholera is generally admitted to be so likewise.

Fevers of this kind I have already shown to be essentially diseases of filth and deficient aeration. The prophylactics would be, scrupulous cleanliness of the vessel and clothes, frequent ablutions of the body, constant attention to the windsails, and daily exposure to the open air on deck. The disease did not break out till near the Cape, at least one month's voyage hence, so that it was not carried from here: moreover, a hot climate is unfavourable to its production: it is therefore rare within the tropics, so much so, that Dr. Morehead in his work on tropical diseases recently published, says, "typhus, typhoid, and relapsing fevers are unknown in India." They are, however, not absolutely unknown. I have seen about eight cases.

Dr. Edmonds again says, "shortly before rounding the Cape, fever of a typhoid type, attended with much delirium and tendency to diarrhœa, appeared and continued to increase with one short lull until we arrived here."

Dr. Edmonds' proposed precautions as regards habituating the coolie to his ship-diet before he starts, appear to me unnecessary, as I have already said that his diet is really very little different to what he eats on shore. Dr. Edmonds' further proposals for railings, bamboo gratings, &c., I think would serve no useful purpose, as they would greatly increase the difficulty of cleaning the ship, and would obstruct ventilation very much more than the platforms to which so many objections are made.

I do not know the character of this disease in the West Indies, but I certainly never heard and never read of contagious dysentery; and I know that it does not exist in any part of India of which I have experience; so that it is useless to argue on the paragraph which follows, in which it is stated that the disease "spread and became intensified, in consequence of there having been no means provided for the separation of the infected."

The committee on the "Robert Seppings" and "Roman Emperor" attribute the mortality to the embarkation of coolies, "actually suffering from the contagious disease, dysentery."

With reference to the proposal in a letter signed Alfred Parish, that two experienced sirdars should be appointed to go down with each vessel to the Sandheads to break the men in for the voyage, in the same way as two sergeants go with the troops from Gravesend; I think the idea is a good one, but the practical difficulty would be to get good men, who would really perform the arduous task. Many of the captains and doctors must work under great difficulties at first, seeing that many of them are entire strangers to the language and habits of the natives of India, and utterly ignorant of the mode of acquiring influence over them, a thing which is absolutely necessary for the proper management of a large body of men.

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Lastly, it may perhaps be expected that I should propose some more definite regulations for the preservation of health on board the emigrant vessels; but though I may lay down principles, I feel that details must be better understood by those who are well conversant with the management of ships at sea. The rules supplied by you are excellent, but I would also recommend to the careful perusal of every medical man that takes charge of coolies, a pamphlet entitled "A Guide to Health in Troop-ships and Emigrant Vessels," by T. W. Wilson, M. D., Professor of Midwifery in the Medical College, Calcutta. Though specially applicable to Europeans, it contains much that is equally so to natives: indeed, sanitary precautions, such as are therein laid down, must be equally necessary for all varieties of the human species, and, if properly carried out, are likely to save and prolong the lives of vast numbers of the emigrants.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. B. Scriven*,
Medical Examiner of Emigrants to the West Indies.

To T. Caird, Esq.,
Emigration Agent.

(No. 2.)

SUGGESTIONS by Dr. *Payne* regarding Emigration to the *Mauritius*.

From Assistant Surgeon *A. J. Payne*, M. D., Medical Examiner of Emigrants to Mauritius, to *A. Young*, Esq., Secretary to Government of Bengal; dated Calcutta, 23 June 1857.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour of requesting that you will, at your convenience, do me the favour of submitting for the consideration of his Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, the following remarks on the medical examination of emigrants to the Mauritius, in case it should be thought fit to make a communication to the Government of Mauritius on the subject.

1st. Since I received from this Government the appointment of medical examiner, several embarkations of coolies have taken place, and in two or three instances already reports have been received of fatal cases of sickness having occurred on board certain ships, shortly after leaving Calcutta; I am anxious to state how far in my opinion medical examination can be relied upon to prevent these occurrences, lest they should in future be ascribed, as I am informed by the emigration agent they have been in past instances, to neglect of proper examination here.

2d. This Government is already well aware that a sudden change in the mode of life of a large number of persons, such as these people undergo when they are sent on board ship, must have a tendency to create sickness and mortality, and beyond this general fact, that a special cause in the increased portion of women and children, has of late been in operation to add to the ratio of deaths.

3d. Again, that the most careful examination of persons will, in some instances, fail to detect constitutional proneness to disease, and even present disorder will escape when, as is often the case, its manifestations are wanting; and more particularly when the object of persons examined is to represent themselves sound and healthy, and they are one and all prepared to deny the existence of any symptom of illness that they may be questioned upon.

4th. In some recent instances the diseases that have proved fatal have been cholera and dysentery; and in one case the report of the ship's officer was accompanied by a statement to the effect, that the elements of these diseases must have been present before embarkation. This of course is a simple assumption, and one most easy to advance on the occurrence of any case of sickness shortly after leaving the place. There may be latent germs of cholera and dysentery, which in any or all cases precede the outward signs of the disease; such, if they exist, are known by no symptoms, and as the present state of medical knowledge does not admit of my denying them, the same imperfection should prevent any credence being given to statements in the affirmative.

5th. Every band of coolies shipped, is now furnished with a statement in my own handwriting, of the names, age, &c., of all persons who are beyond the prime of life, or from any other cause unlikely to prove able-bodied, with the reasons that determine their being accepted as emigrants, notwithstanding their defects. The object of this paper is to show that these defects were not overlooked, but that there were strong reasons for acting in spite of them.

6th. I must admit, that as instances of large mortality occur, and the cases are reported here when they are beyond the reach of special investigation, it does not sound satisfactorily to reply by a general assurance that no pains are spared by the emigration agent and myself to secure the soundest men, women and children that can be secured. But such is the case,

every

every emigrant is carefully examined before his certificate is signed, and if he have the general appearance of illness, or any of its particular symptoms, he is not suffered to embark unless under peculiar circumstances, which are then noted in the paper described in para. 5.

7th. I am quite unable to suggest any improvement in the present system, for I believe that where it fails, it fails of necessity from the nature of the case, and not from any inherent defect, and I am desirous now of placing before the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor this statement of what I believe can, and what cannot be effected by precautions, and of showing that certain conditions exist, such as the emigration of a family, which require that in some individuals too great regard should not be had to the present health, or the inconvenience of rejecting the whole must be borne for the sake of one unsound; I wish also to point out how much easier it is on the occurrence of a death to assume a cause for it, than it is to predicate of any apparently healthy man that he shall or shall not continue so.

8th. The above remarks are submitted in the hope that a communication may be made to the Government of Mauritius on the subject of them, and that in future all inquiry or remonstrance may be addressed by the authorities there to the Government of Bengal, to whom I hope to be allowed to offer any explanation that occasion may require.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Arthur J. Payne*, M.D.,
Medical Examiner of Emigrants to Mauritius.

REPORT of a Committee appointed to examine into the Causes of Mortality in Coolie Emigrant Vessels.

President, Dr. *Wilson*; Members, Drs. *Macpherson* and *Bedford*.

The following are the subjects of inquiry which were brought before us by the emigration agent:

SUBJECTS OF INQUIRY.

1st. The causes of the unusual frequency with which emigrant ships now reach the Mauritius with Asiatic cholera on board.

2d. Whether a more strict examination into the state of health of each individual before embarkation would tend to diminish the evils complained of?

3d. Whether the coolies take cholera on board with them, or whether it originated afterwards?

4th. What sanitary precautions could be taken in India, or on board the ships, by which the risk might be diminished?

5th. Whether cholera prevails more at one season of the year than another in India, and if so, whether it would be expedient not to ship coolies during the cholera season?

6th. Whether the cause of the mortality complained of be Asiatic cholera, or some other form of bowel complaint?

7th. The expediency or otherwise of sending fewer emigrants by each vessel.

8th. The expediency of securing better medical attendance during the voyage.

9th. The expediency of paying more attention to diet, the change in which from their food at home is probably in many cases very great, the effect of which requires to be carefully inquired into.

REPORT.

In the course of our inquiry, we did not deem it necessary to follow exactly this order, but our opinion on every point raised is embodied in the following report.

The committee met several times at the emigration depôt, and examined various ships' captains and native doctors, either now or formerly engaged in Mauritius emigration ships. But no very novel information was elicited, and on the main object of the inquiry, the increased rate of mortality during the present and the preceding year, no light was thrown excepting by the accompanying statistical papers, compiled from documents in the emigration agent's office. From these tables the following facts respecting the mortality have been deduced.

(*N. B.*—The tables are not absolutely accurate, but sufficiently so for practical purposes. The documents furnished did not admit of greater accuracy.)

The average mortality during the voyage from Calcutta to the Mauritius, during the past eight years, has been 1·77. The mortality in 1848 was only 13·1, and in 1850 as low as 0·47 per

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0·47 per cent. From this it gradually increased to 3·63 in 1855, and to a still higher rate during the early part of the current year.

To account for this increased mortality we inquired whether the coolies sent of late years were shipped in as good a state of health as formerly, or whether there was any material change in the character of the emigrants, with the exception of a great increase in the number of women and children, among which two classes the mortality is usually largest, especially among the young. To this last point we shall have occasion to refer again, and its extent is shown by Table No. 1.

Our next inquiry was, what effect the season of embarkation had, and whether if there were an unhealthy season, an unusual number of emigrants had, of late years, been dispatched during it. The Table No. III. shows very distinctly that the greatest mortality is among emigrants embarking in February, March, and April; the mortality being in those months 3·21, 3·50, and 2·76 respectively. These months are, on the whole, the months in which cholera is most prevalent in Calcutta, they are also the months in which the river water is most brackish, and we learn that the coolies are in the habit of drawing it up to drink while they are in the Hooghly; and at this season, there is of course the greatest risk that water in barrel may not be perfectly sweet or free from all brackishness, if the water cask be filled in the river.

Looking still further, and taking the months from February to the end of September, that is, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, and comparing them with those from October to February, that is, with October, November, December, January, February, we find a marked difference in the mortality, that in the first eight of 2·10, being somewhat more than double the mortality of the other months, it being only 1·02. If we now look at the number of emigrants dispatched at the different season of the year, although we shall not find that the months of greatest mortality are absolutely those in which most emigrants go, still, in the eight unhealthy months, the greater proportion are sent, 49,909 in eight months; being in proportion to 11,510 in the four cold months, or about two to one. This is singular in its coincidence with the double rates of mortality.

It follows, as a natural inference from this, that the best season for dispatching coolies is that of the four cold weather months, or probably, if we had the means of ascertaining the dates more accurately, from the 15th October to the 15th February. This is the season of most settled weather in Calcutta and in the Bay of Bengal, when the emigrants are least likely to be much confined between decks by rough weather.

It would seem on the whole that since 1852 there have been fewer shipments than formerly during the healthy months, for since that date up to the end of 1855 there were no fewer than five of the healthy months, two Januaries, one October, one November, one December, in which no shipments at all were made, while in the preceding four years shipments appear to have been made in all the favourable months, with the exception of one October.

We next inquired whether the average number of emigrants embarked in each ship has been greater during the sickly than during the other years under review, for it appears from extensive averages deduced from the other times of emigration, that on the whole there is something injurious to the maintenance of health in the congregation of large bodies of human beings, even although the tonnage allowed may be ample, and 250 has been found to be about the safe number; accordingly we find that the four years preceding the year 1852, the average was 254; for the four years after, 293, and in the year of greatest mortality, 1855, it amounted to as much as 309.

Our next object of inquiry was of what do the emigrants die, and is there any evidence of great mortality either during the voyage, or on their arrival previous to their being permitted to land at the Mauritius?

We ascertained, although the medical records are kept in a very imperfect manner, that a few die of fever and cholera, but that the great amount of deaths is from bowel complaints, diarrhœa, and dysentery. Cholera occasionally occurs while the ship is proceeding down the river, but generally quits the ship soon after it leaves the Sandheads. In a few instances cholera has broken out a fortnight after the ship has left the pilot, but we could find no evidence that any ship had ever arrived off the Mauritius with cholera on board. No ship probably arrives without a few cases of diarrhœa amd dysentery on board, it being all but impossible for natives of Bengal to be at sea for any length of time without suffering from those complaints. The remedy is change on shore, and we consider the ordering a vessel to cruise off the island until it is free from bowel complaints to be worse than useless.

It was not within the scope of our inquiry to examine into the causes of the almost unheard of mortality in Gabriel and Flat Islands, but enough evidence came before us to make it clear that it was not dependent on board-ship life, or on disease carried by the emigrants from India, but on the treatment which they received after their arrival.

We were much struck with the evidence of increasing vigilance on the part of the emigration agent, with reference to the dieting and the care of the emigrants, and a good deal came out, on inquiry, to show that a very great deal in preserving the health of the coolies depended

depended on the care and judgment of the captains, and that vessels of inferior quality, but well commanded, have been very fortunate in the small loss of life during several successive voyages.

Nevertheless, although satisfied in the main with the existing regulations, we were induced to make some suggestion for improving the diet of the coolies, and for their being better attended on board ship. These we shall not allude to further than by annexing the improved table of diet and of the regulations to be observed in coolie ships, as they contain the gist of our recommendations which were immediately adopted by the emigration agent.

Before giving our opinion as to the causes of increased mortality, we should have wished to have been furnished with detailed accounts of the Bombay, and more especially the Madras shipments of coolies, as it seems to be agreed that they are more successful than those from Calcutta, and we have not had any reason for this assigned, except the difference in the class of men shipped.

We, therefore, as far as the evidence before us enables us to judge, attribute the increased mortality to late years —

(A.) To the increase of women and children, whom it is more difficult to keep on deck, and therefore have between decks clean.

(B.) To the smaller number of ships despatched during the cold weather months than formerly, and to the progressive increase of the number of emigrants embarked. Having expressed this opinion it only remains for us to suggest the remedies.

It is difficult for us to recommend that the number of women and children should be reduced, as it is on other accounts desirable that they should accompany the heads of their families; but the custom of allowing individuals sometimes to proceed, although in a broken state of health, in order that the family party may not be broken up, should be abandoned.

We most strongly recommend that no ship, whatever its tonnage, should be allowed to carry more than 250 emigrants.

Shipments should also be made to a much greater extent than at present during the cold weather months.

To render it more the interest of captains of vessels to land the coolies in health we should recommend (in addition to what has already been done by the emigration agent) that one rupee per head be allowed to the captain for every man landed, and that from the total of this 10 rupees should be deducted for every death on board.

The medical records should be better kept, and we think that a detailed explanation should be required from the captain and medical officer of the cause of the mortality, whenever it exceeds one per cent.

As we consider that the preservation of the health of coolies is more a matter of judicious management than one of medical treatment, and as the great majority of European medical men that could be induced to go in charge are altogether ignorant of the language and habits of natives, we do not deem it necessary to recommend a superior class of medical officers to the common native doctors for their medical charge.*

(signed) *T. W. Wilson,*
Presidency Surgeon, Calcutta, President and Member of Committee.

J. Macpherson,
President Surgeon and Member of Committee.

(True Copy.)

(signed) W. Grey,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

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* Dr. Bedford died during the investigation, hence his name is not appended to this report.—*F. J. Mouat.*

TABLE exhibiting the PROPORTION of MORTALITY in each Class of Indian Emigrant Coolies, proceeding from *Calcutta* to *Mauritius*, during Eight Years.

YEARS.	Total Number of Males.	Total Number of Deaths.	Ratio per Cent.	Total Number of Females.	Total Number of Deaths.	Ratio per Cent.	Total Number of Boys.	Total Deaths.	Ratio.	Girls.	Deaths.	Ratio.	Infants.	Deaths.	Ratio.	Total Ratio per Cent.
1848 - - -	4,990	67	1·34	642	5	·77	299	2	·66	54	2	3·70	114	7	6·14	12·61
1849 - - -	5,915	70	1·18	898	9	1·00	357	6	1·68	97	2	2·06	190	12	6·31	12·23
1850 - - -	4,308	23	·53	608	3	·49	355	2	·56	72	—	—	200	10	5·00	1·63
1851 - - -	4,986	44	·88	884	16	1·80	296	1	·33	115	1	·86	271	15	5·53	9·40
1852 - - -	5,822	62	1·06	1,550	43	3·73	520	13	2·05	313	13	4·15	500	55	11·00	22·05
1853 - - -	6,040	88	1·45	927	25	2·69	284	11	3·87	124	4	3·22	315	25	7·93	19·16
1854 - - -	7,293	120	1·64	901	25	2·77	319	9	2.08	150	3	2·00	260	25	9·06	18·81
1855 - - -	5,055	130	2·05	1,209	41	3·39	357	23	6·04	192	11	5·07	307	41	10·09	28·89

TABLE exhibiting the PROPORTION of MORTALITY in each Month of Eight Years of Indian Emigrant Coolies, proceeding from *Calcutta* and *Mauritius*.

From the Years 1848 to 1855.	January.		February.		March.		April.		May.		June.		July.		August.		September.		October.		November.		December.	
	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.	Numbers Embarked.	Number of Deaths.
1848	94	–	–	–	317	10	516	6	534	8	837	16	810	7	586	11	476	7	505	3	807	8	298	5
1849	563	4	854	9	990	8	279	2	507	21	1,142	16	449	6	929	13	777	4	255	4	492	4	539	10
1850	369	–	552	5	306	3	707	7	314	3	432	5	No report of two ships. 459	4	568	7	547	3	No report.		655	1	310	–
1851	324	–	290	8	617	4	324	17	817	7	762	3	701	7	590	5	1,232	15	276	3	187	1	756	7
1852	581	2	1,025	32	1,387	29	941	12	593	7	1,314	30	1,297	35	596	27	171	–	579	9	–	–	–	–
1853	221	3	308	15	908	17	1,018	59	–	–	1,543	22	1,074	9	631	14	542	8	307	3	679	3	680	3
1854	–	–	901	42	905	58	925	14	635	5	1,282	28	1,386	11	2,066	15	No report of Mohusser. 628	7	195	1	394	3	340	3
1855	–	–	637	36	440	9	285	21	973	29	672	13	1,362	52	1,376	59	641	21	–	–	320	23	763	34
	2,152	9	4,567	147	5,870	138	4,995	138	4,373	80	7,984	133	7,538	131	7,342	151	5,014	65	2,117	23	3,534	43	3,686	62
Ratio per Cent. of Death -	·46	–	3·21	–	2·35	–	2·76	–	1·82	–	1·66	–	1·73	–	2·05	–	1·29	–	1·08	–	1·25	–	1·58	

(True Copies.)

(signed) *W. Grey*,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

TABLE exhibiting the PROPORTION of MORTALITY of Indian Emigrant Coolies, in different portions of the Voyage between *Calcutta* and the *Mauritius*, for Eight Years.

YEARS.	Total Number of Ships dispatched in each Year.	Number of Souls Embarked.	Number to a Ship (average).	Total Number of Deaths between Calcutta and Sandheads.	Ratio per Cent.	Total Number of Deaths between Calcutta and Mauritius, so far as can yet be ascertained.	Ratio per Cent.
1848 - - -	23	5,985	260	10	·16	75	1·31
1849 - - -	30	7,267	242	8	·11	88	1·32
1850 - - -	24	6,257	260	2	·03	28	·47
1851 - - -	24	6,281	262	2	·03	62	1·01
1852 - - -	30	8,205	273	17	·20	128	1·76
1853 - - -	25	7,375	295	9	·12	131	2·19
1854 - - -	31	9,225	297	11	·11	182	2·08
1855 - - -	23	7,120	309	13	·18	246	3·63

STATEMENT of People who have gone from hence to the *Mauritius* during the following Years, showing the great increase of Women and Children.

YEARS.	MEN.	WOMEN.	CHILDREN.	INFANTS.
1853 - - -	6,040	927	408	315
1854 - - -	7,567	923	473	262
1855 - - -	5,055	1,209	549	307
1856 - - -	4,262	1,541	687	342

(No. 4.)

Mr. CAIRD'S REPORT.

To *T. Caird*, Esq., Emigration Agent.

Sir, Dated Fort William, 23 October 1857.

WITH reference to the inquiry which I have been directed to conduct, into the mortality that occurred among the emigrants to the West Indies during the past season, I have the honour to request the favour of your furnishing me with the following information from your records, regarding the emigrants who have been shipped during your incumbency, whether to he West Indies or the Mauritius.

1. The parts of the country from which emigrants generally come; the probable length of time occupied by their journey, and their state generally when they reach the depôt.

2. The proportion that come voluntarily, and that which is crimped, and the motives generally which induce them to migrate.

3. The average length of time they remain at the depôt, the scale of diet which they receive there, and their general condition when leaving, as compared with that of their entering the depôt.

Appendix, No. 4.

4. The influence of season on the health of the depôt, and the means of treating the sick at your disposal.

5. The mortality at the depôt, at different seasons and in different years.

6. The condition of the emigrants generally at the time of embarkation as affected by season.

7. The influence of detention in the river on their health, so far as your records throw any right upon it.

8. The number of emigrants, if any, which you obtain from the Madras Presidency; who they are, and where they come from; their healthiness on board-ship as compared with Bengal coolies; and the causes to which you attribute any difference, should such exist.

II. I have addressed separate communications to the surgeons in charge of the depôt, which are enclosed, and which I shall feel obliged by your transmitting to those officers.

I have, &c.
(signed) *F. J. Mouat,*
Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, L. P.,
Conducting Special Inquiry.

(No. 227.)

To *F. Mouat,* Esq., Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, L. P.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d instant.

* Benares, Azimghur, Goruckpore, Juanpore, Ghazeepore, Mozufferpore, Chuprah, Shahabad, Patna, Gya, Chota Nagpore, and Hazareebaugh.

1. Labourers with their families come mostly from the districts noted in the margin,* and the length of time occupied by their journey is, according to the distance of each district respectively from the Presidency. Goruckpore and Azimghur, the two most distant districts, generally take single men from 30 to 35 days, but if accompanied by women and children, forty days at the least to reach Calcutta. The coolies from all the districts, with the exception of those from the Chota Nagpore agency, generally speaking, arrive at the depôt in very fair order, considering the distance they have come down by forced marches. Many of the women and children however arrive footsore, but after a little rest they get perfectly well again. The coolies from Chota Nagpore seldom or ever arrive in good condition, as their means of living in their own country is precarious in the extreme, and their health does most certainly not improve by a residence in Calcutta. I am consequently compelled to reject large numbers who offer themselves, being unfit to undertake a voyage by sea, however short.

2. The whole of the coolies come voluntarily. The greater portion for Mauritius are brought down through the agency of old men from that colony, while others again come of their own accord on hearing of the wages that are obtainable in Mauritius. I also procure some by the aid of paid recruiters.

The coolies who emigrate to the West Indies are all collected by paid recruiters (men of bad character, no respectable person being willing to undertake the office of recruiter) the inducement to emigrate is the same as to Mauritius, the hope of earning high rates of wages.

3. The average length of time they remain at the depôt can be shown by the feeding book, it varies from five to 25 days.

Some improve by remaining here, while others again fall off in condition, and they always attribute their illness or weakly appearance to the drinking water, which does not, they say, assist in digesting their food. The whole of the people who emigrate have been accustomed to drink well water from their childhood, here they can get none but tank water. The rations allowed to each adult emigrant are as follows:—

Rice	8 Chuttacks.
Dholl	1½ ditto.
Salt	¼ ditto.
Oil	¼ ditto.
Chillies and Turmeric	¼ ditto.
Firewood	2 Seers.

Earthern Pots for cooking, when required.

4. The most unhealthy period I think may be said to be from February to the end of May; in those months cholera always prevails more or less all over India.

The native doctor, assisted by a second man looks after the sick, and the examiner of emigrants also visits any dangerous cases. Medicines are procured from the Government dispensary, and paid for by the agency.

5. The mortality at the present time is comparatively nothing to what it was in 1844 and 1845, and during the last four years the depôt has been unusually healthy.

6. The condition of the people at the time of embarkation is precisely similar to the condition

condition of labourers generally throughout India, and the season has no apparent effect on their general appearance. Appendix, No. 4.

7. The health of the coolies in the river has much improved during the last ten years. Prior to 1847 the deaths in the river were very great. The present arrangements however are such, that immediately the coolies are embarked, the ship proceeds at once to sea under tow of a steamer; formerly they remained a day or two waiting for a steamer.

8. I have obtained no coolies from the Madras Presidency since 1851, the Mauritius Government having interdicted my sending any unless accompanied by women from their own villages. Those who were shipped by me came from the Ganjam Berhampore, and I have seldom seen finer men.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird,*
Emigration Agent.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
31 October 1857.

(No. 5.)

REPORT from Dr. *Scriven.*

To Dr. *Scriven,* Medical Examiner of Emigrants for the West Indies.

Sir, Fort William, 23 October 1857.

WITH reference to the special inquiry into the mortality among emigrants to the West Indies during the past season, which I have been appointed to conduct, I have the honour to solicit the favour of your furnishing me in writing, with the following information—

1. The nature and extent of your duties in connexion with the Emigration depôt.

2. The times at which you ordinarily visit it, and the means at your disposal for the treatment of the sick.

3. The state usually in which coolies reach the depôt, and the influence of residence at the depôt upon their health.

4. The seasons at which they are most sickly, the nature of the diseases from which they suffer, and the average actual mortality among them.

5. The classes and castes most prone to sickness, and those who suffer most at sea, if you have information on the subject.

6. The nature of the medical examination to which you subject them prior to embarkation, stating when, where, and how it is conducted, in detail.

7. The means which you take to ascertain the concealment of sickness, and what cases are rejected and remanded to the depôt.

8. Who assists in, and is present at the examination, and what power, if any, he possesses of objecting to your selections.

9. Whether in your belief there are any seasons of the year, or any classes of emigrants at which, or whom it is undesirable to embark for transmission to the West Indies or elsewhere.

10. The influence of detention in the river on their health, and the causes to which you attribute any sickness that occurs in consequence.

11. Any suggestions that you yourself may wish to make regarding the present medical arrangements, or any changes you would propose to introduce in them.

II. I shall take an early opportunity of personally examining all the arrangements of the depôt.

I have, &c.
(signed) *F. J. Mouat,*
Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, L. P., Conducting Special Inquiry.

To *F. J. Mouat,* Esq., M. D., Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, L. P.

Sir, General Hospital, 23 October 1857.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2, of to-day's date, with reference to the causes of mortality amongst the emigrants to the West Indies during the past season, and to offer the following observations in reply to your inquiries, taking the latter in order.

To examine the emigrants before embarkation, and to certify that each has been either vaccinated or inoculated, or has had the small-pox, and is in good health: to attend the sick at the depôt, and to examine the medicines supplied for each voyage. I have also taken a good deal of pains, in communication with the emigration agent, in the sanitary Nature and extent of medical examiner's duties.

Appendix, No. 4.

arrangements of the depôt, so as to avoid noxious emanations, nuisances, &c., as far as possible.

Times of visiting and means of treatment.

When there are sick at the depôt, I generally visit it every other day, or every day, or sometimes twice a day, according to the nature of the cases presenting themselves. There are all means of treatment usually supplied to native hospitals,—a native doctor, medicines, and hospital comforts in abundance.

The state in which coolies reach the depôt, and the influence of the depôt upon them.

Many come in an emaciated state, but many likewise in perfect health. I am not prepared with accurate numbers on this point, as I do not necessarily see men who are simply emaciated; for the lack of food is generally the cause of this, and it is remedied in a short time by the diet of the depôt, without medical treatment. Their residence at the depôt is generally beneficial, as it is, on the whole, a very healthy and desirable place, though there is a certain drawback to be mentioned hereafter.

Seasons at which coolies most sickly; nature of diseases; mortality.

Emigration to the West Indies lasts only six months in the year, viz., from September 1st to February 28th; most of those that die at the depôt, I think, die during the latter half of this period, but the deaths are more influenced by epidemics of cholera than by season. The mortality is commonly very small, it is principally produced by cholera; but I have no records from which I can gather the actual or average mortality.

Classes and castes most prone to sickness.

Of this likewise I have no records. I think that the very dark race, called Dhangurs, or Choars, form the majority. Still less have I information of the classes that die at sea; but I believe that the Dhangurs still form the mass of the mortality.

Nature of medical examination.

All single men are first examined by the native doctor, to see that they are not suffering from syphilis, gonorrhœa, hernia, or any other disease about the genital organs: those that he considers fit subjects are then marked with a stamp, and brought before me. I usually feel their pulses, look at their tongues, take their general appearance into consideration, examine for pits of small-pox, &c. People in obviously robust health are passed at once: doubtful cases are put aside and undergo a careful examination when the rest have been seen. This examination is conducted at the depôt generally the day before the ship in which the party is to embark sails. Married men and women do not undergo the native doctor's examination alluded to above.

Means taken to ascertain concealment of sickness.

The diseases most frequently concealed are, bowel complaints, to detect which, the only means I have is the observation of the native doctor; that is, unless the disease has gone so far as to make the patient look ill; under which latter circumstances particular examination is made as to abdominal tenderness, &c.

Cases rejected and remanded to depôt.

Cases of bowel complaint, and sometimes of fever, of emaciation and debility from whatever cause, are remanded to the depôt. Cases of scrofula, of phthisis, of blindness, or of any chronic or permanent disease, are rejected, if they occur; but the coolies having previously undergone examination by the native doctor, and careful selection by the emigration agent, such are very rarely brought before me.

Persons assisting or present at the examination; their power of objecting.

The surgeon of the ship, the native doctor of the depôt, and a native vaccinator, assist. The emigration agent is generally present during a part of the examination, or at hand for reference. The surgeon of the ship can object, and is requested to do so, if he sees reason. He seldom does so, however. A case objected to by him is remanded or rejected, unless the objection be removed by explanation, or unless the objectionable individual be member of a large family that cannot be divided, in which case a remark to that effect is invariably made.

Seasons of the year or classes of natives undesirable for emigration.

I think the cool season has been wisely selected for West India emigration; a summer, or at worst an autumnal voyage round the Cape being thus secured. For reasons the converse of this, the hot weather would be undesirable.

I have no reason to think the mortality is so much greater among one class than another as to render any undesirable. I believe the Dhangurs lose most; but yet we have evidence from former years that voyages may be conducted with little detriment to any class.

Women and children, in large numbers, are the people to whom I object, for reasons stated in my report addressed to the emigration agent, which is in your hands.

Influence of detention in the river on health.

Detention in the Hooghly, and even sailing at once down it, is, no doubt, a cause of the occurrence of some cases of cholera, dysentery, and fever, from the shore miasmata, from the unexplained partiality of the cholera for rivers, and, possibly, likewise, from the coolies drinking the brackish water. I have been long convinced, though the point may be difficult to prove, that to the open roadstead of Madras is to be attributed, in part, the superior success of emigration from the sister Presidency.

Suggestions as to present medical arrangements.

On this subject I have nothing to add to those already made in the report to the emigration agent already alluded to, which it is needless to repeat.

Filthy state of Tolly's Nullah.

Lastly, I beg leave to record my opinion, that the grand drawback to the cooly depôt, in short, the great obstacle to its perfect salubrity, is the filthy state of the banks of Tolly's Nullah, on which it is situated. During the north-east monsoon, the season of emigration, the noxious effluvia wafted directly into the midst of the mass of human beings collected there, cannot but be injurious; and though I do not suggest this as by any means a principal element in the causes of mortality, yet, it appears to me to be one of the numerous evils, by a careful investigation and removal of which, we may hope eventually to better the condition of the West India emigrants.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. B. Scriven*,

First Assistant Surgeon, General Hospital,

Medical Examiner of West India Emigrants.

(No. 6.)

REPORT from Dr. *Payne.**

To *F. Mouat,* Esq., Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, Lower Provinces.

Sir, General Hospital, 29 October 1857.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your letter, No. 5, requesting information on certain subjects connected with the emigration of coolies from hence to Mauritius. I beg in reply to offer the following remarks, arranging the details in the order of your questions.

1. My duties consist in a general supervision of the arrangements of the depôt, and emigrant ships, exercised in matters that influence the health of the coolies, the physical examination of every man, woman, and child before embarkation, with inspection of medical stores laid in for the voyage by commanders of vessels, and the management of the hospital where the sick of the coolies resident at the depôt are located.

2. No regular times for visiting the depôt are observed. When a ship-load of coolies is ready for embarkation, a notice is sent to me by the emigration agent and an hour appointed for their examination. As regards treatment of the sick, a native doctor is entertained, whose duty it is to visit the huts of the coolies daily, and ascertain whether all are well; to remove the sick to the hospital, and in cases of grave illness, to summon me at once. In case any considerable number of sick persons present themselves at one time, a report of the fact is made to me, and the nature of the cases stated.

3. The state in which coolies reach the depôt varies very much from time to time, some are well-fed and healthy looking, others again are lean, emaciated, and half-starved; the difference is probably due to the circumstances under which they leave their homes, and the distance they travel. The influence of residence at the depôt is, for the most part, that a large number previously weak and ill from living low, are strengthened and fitted for the voyage, wholesome food is provided, and they are sheltered from the weather.

4. My experience as examiner is scarcely sufficient to admit of my answering this question satisfactorily. It has, however, been remarked, that the months of January, February, and March are the most unhealthy. The diseases from which they suffer chiefly are diarrhœa, dysentery and cholera, and the actual mortality of the past year has been as stated below:

January - -	3	April - - -	2	July - -	1
February - -	6	May - - -	1	August -	0
March - -	4	June - - -	10	September -	5

The average daily number resident at the depôt being, for the several months, as follows:

January -	148	April - -	1,124	July -	824
February -	159	May - - -	1,581	August -	364
March - -	568	June - - -	1,234	September	273

5. On this subject, I regret to say, I possess no information in consequence of the vague, irregular and unsatisfactory manner in which the details of each voyage are furnished to the agency here from the Mauritius.

6. The medical examination of each shipment is conducted at the depôt, on the day immediately preceding embarkation. This would be more correctly described as the final examination, since the coolies are previously inspected: 1st. By the emigration agent; 2d. by the native doctor of the depôt, who ascertains if rupture, venereal, or any disease of the genitals be present; and 3d., by the vaccinator who seeks for marks of small-pox or inoculation, and if both are wanting, performs vaccination at once. The manner of my examination is as follows: Emigrants are brought before me in families, and the emigration certificate of each is produced. This paper contains name and parent's name, caste, age, place of birth, and a column for remarks, which is occupied by noting any peculiarities of appearance, scars, permanent but important defects, &c. After looking carefully at each person, I decide on accepting or rejecting the family, and if the former, and any member of the family, be doubtful, or manifestly unfit, but still it does not seem desirable to reject the whole on account of one, the name, age, &c. of this one are written in a separate paper, and the cause of his being passed as an emigrant in spite of his defects is stated.

7. The means of ascertaining concealment of disease are the preliminary and final examination of coolies, and the regular inspection of them in their houses by the native doctor of the depôt. The cases rejected are those who from any cause seem permanently unfit to labour, those remanded on the other hand are sent; such as are suffering from present sickness or its effects, or may have been weakened by low living and fatigue, and give fair promise of being fit to embark within a reasonable time.

8. Whoever has medical charge of the coolies embarked, whether he be European or native, attends with me and examines each man. If he raises an objection to any individual, the latter is rejected or remanded as the case may be. The decision is final as regards the present shipment, for I am careful never to urge the passing of any coolie so objected to, though

* The letter addressed to Dr. Payne was the same, *mutatis mutandis,* as that sent to Dr. Scriven.—*F.J.M.*

Appendix, No. 4.

though the grounds of objection seem to me ever so trivial, indeed I never assert my own opinion when that of the ship doctor has been given, and then if he be a native, I escape the danger of mistaking obsequious submission for acknowledgment of error on his part.

9. For the reasons set forth in para. 5, I am not able to offer a reply to this question.

10. In cases where from accidental causes detention in the river has occurred, which have been very few indeed, this effect has been undoubtedly very prejudicial; this is a fact so undisputed, as far as I know, that all possible steps are taken to prevent detention.

11. The only suggestion I would offer in reply to para. 11 of your letter is, that means should be adopted to secure regular and detailed reports of the sickness and mortality that occur on the several voyages, unless particulars of this nature are received regularly and punctually it is impossible that past experience, however lengthened, can be made of prospective value in determining the circumstances of season, class, caste, age, sex, and management that are favourable or otherwise to emigration. Proposals that I have to make from time to time are generally concerning minor matters of detail, and are adopted under the authority of the emigration agent.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Arthur Payne*, M. D.
Medical Examiner of Emigrants to Mauritius.

(No. 7.)

CORRESPONDENCE with Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta.

To *H. W. J. Wood*, Esq., Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

Sir, Fort William, 23 October 1857.

WITH reference to letter No. 1278, dated the 15th instant, to your address, from Mr. Secretary Buckland, I have the honour to state, that I am prepared to receive any evidence, oral or written, which members of the Chamber may wish to offer on the subject of the inquiry which I have been appointed to conduct daily from 12 to 3 p.m., at my office in the Bengal Secretariat.

2. The subject is one of great interest, and any suggestions or information with which I may be favoured, will be most carefully weighed and considered.

3. There is one point on which members of the Chamber may possibly have it in their power to afford valuable information, I mean the influence of cargo on health, where a large number of human beings are collected together on the main deck, as occurs in emigrant vessels. I refer particularly to rice, sugar and jute, the staple products of this country.

4. The importance of this matter extends beyond emigrant vessels, and if it be established that such cargoes are unhealthy as ordinarily stowed, it would be well to consider by what simple and efficacious means the deleterious gases disengaged, may be removed without affecting health, or running the risk of damaging the cargo itself.

5. Should any other hours than those mentioned above, be more convenient to the members of the Chamber, I should be happy to adopt them.

I have, &c.
(signed) *F. J. Mouat*,
Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, L. P., Conducting Special Inquiry.

H. W. J. Wood, Esq., Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir, Calcutta, 2 November 1857.

IN reply to your communication, dated 29th ultimo, inviting information elucidative of the great mortality during the past season among the coolie emigrants to the West Indies, I am unable, I fear, to offer any that may be deemed practical or acceptable to Dr. Mouat.

The consideration of various circumstances in connection with the subject above named, with some twelve years' continuous experience that I have had as agent for vessels with coolies, to Mauritius more especially, constrains me to be somewhat sceptical of the prejudicial influence (at least without other concurring combinations favourable to disease), of a rice cargo on health, for to rice, as constituting almost invariably the entire dead weight in the lower hold of vessels carrying emigrants out of this port, I imagine the present inquiry will be principally directed.

The excessive mortality to which the attention of the authorities is now properly called, has only occurred within the past season or two, but since the emigration was thrown open, ships have always carried rice as their dead weight, exclusively so to Mauritius, with a comparatively small admixture of wheat, gram and dholl; and rice, as I have above shown, is also the principal dead weight of the emigrant ships to the West Indies, with occasionally some proportion of sugar and saltpetre for the round, when no noticeable or consecutive mortality was ever before recorded that I am aware of. If, however, disease be engendered by

by exhalations thrown off from rice, the same exciting cause of disease must have long pre-existed to produce it before.

From the extreme precautions to preserve the health and well-being of the native emigrant that every one knows are always adopted and carried out by the Emigration Agent, as regards space in the 'tween-decks (which for the cooley is considerably in excess of the prescribed allotment for the accommodation of the British soldier in troop ships, even from this port), provisions, medicines, including surgical attendance and ventilation, (the last indeed under all and every circumstance entailing a constant and heavy expenditure by the shipowner), it is only natural to infer that other causes for disease must exist, and should now be sought after and traced if possible, and the exhalations from cargo in a more or less heated state by compression and exclusion from air, and sometimes possibly from moisture, seem to afford a most legitimate and proper inquiry. I am inclined to believe, judging from a recent incident within my experience, that although the exhalations from such cargoes as are above mentioned may not alone be sufficient seriously to deteriorate health, that when other causes of probably an atmospheric or meteorological nature, act in combination therewith, that a great amount of mortality may be possibly produced, especially among emigrants who may have embarked carrying within themselves the idiosyncracy of disease. The following incident seems to encourage this supposition.

The ship "Granville," of the burthen of 700 tons, left the Sandheads on the 18th February last, with two hundred and seventy adult emigrants for Trinidad, without the occurrence of a single casualty among them in this river. The dead weight consisted of three hundred tons of iron, and only two hundred and twenty-seven tons of rice, including two or three hundred bags of other grain. This vessel was afterwards spoken in the Bay of Bengal on the 10th March in lat. 5° N., when I received a letter from her commander, advising that up to that date there had been twenty-one deaths by cholera, including the chief mate, which were attributed to constant calms and light winds experienced during that stage of the voyage. From such a commencement I naturally anticipated to hear eventually of a great number of additional deaths before the voyage was terminated, but I was happily deceived by subsequent intelligence, that scarcely another death afterwards occurred, the ship soon after getting out of the latitude of the variable, and falling in with the regular trade winds, and the usual weather for the rest of the voyage. The mortality among the emigrants on board the "Roman Emperor," which left this port some weeks previously, was, I believe, three or four times greater than that of the "Granville," and even in the fine roomy ship "Wellesley," leaving still earlier, a number of deaths, I am informed, likewise occurred during the same season.

I would with deference suggest to those whose province it may be to introduce new safeguards for the preservation of the health of the native emigrant, not to lay too great a stress upon the alleged fact of the immunity from excessive mortality on board of vessels, for example, from the Madras Presidency, by reason of many of them having to be ballasted with sand and stones only, in the absence of cargo of any kind, for it is so well known to the emigration authorities in England (who have had to deal with emigration on so gigantic a scale), that exhalations productive of great mortality do sometimes arise out of such ballast, that in the port of London at least nothing but washed shingle or boulder stones are admitted as ballast on board of emigration, troop, or convict vessels. As it is only of recent date that disease has become rife on board of emigrant vessels carrying cargo, which they have for so many years taken before harmlessly, so may the same mortality appear hereafter on earth or sand ballasted ships, when the presence of the same unknown and mysterious agencies act in concert with other causes.

Dr. Mouat refers to the risk of cargo itself being damaged by the gases evolved from other portions of such, apart fr omthe inquiry as to the influence which these gases may have on health itself. This we know to be already established in the case of what is ordinarily termed the "steam from sugar," hitherto considered as innocuous in other respects. The worthy doctor would confer a substantial boon on the mercantile community (on the shippers of jute more especially), if he could tell us of some practical remedy to neutralise or exorcise this evil doer overboard (which is likewise, if not pernicious, extremely disagreeable to the lungs of passengers of every description), which is known to occasion frequently much damage by rotting and discolouring jute and other fibre, although these, as measurement goods, are always stowed apart in the 'tween decks of ships. Indeed, it is found that the higher the strata of bales, the more subject are they to injury, as the density of the ascending steam increases. Experienced and careful ship-masters, aware of this fact, are in the habit of removing their hatches in fine weather to facilitate ventilation, and the escape of this confined steam, and the vessels they command are generally remarkable for delivering jute in sound condition. If of any importance, I imagine the elements of this gas from sugar may be easily detected by the analytic grasp of the chemical operator, since when generated freely, it leaves a tangible deposit upon the bulk-heads of ships and on the cargo it may damage, which might be scraped off and collected, which is otherwise with the gas emitted from rice, an agent too invisible and subtle to be laid hold of, I apprehend.

In conclusion I beg to be permitted, without the risk of giving offence, to express the hope that it is not the intention of the authorities to inaugurate with this preliminary mooting of the subject, any further addition to the heavy pecuniary outlay for fittings and provisioning, &c., of vessels for the reception of emigrants that is already imposed upon the shipping interest, and which, during the last few years, has been constantly increasing. The Committee of the Chamber, while facilitating inquiry, and the adoption of real practical

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improvements, will not, I trust, on the other hand, countenance any new theoretical experiments being practised against the destroyer, cholera (which has baffled and still almost wholly defies medical research all over the world), which are not to be paid for directly by the authorities themselves.

Yours faithfully,
(signed) *Edwd. M. Cowell.*

H. W. J. Wood, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

(No. 8.)

CORRESPONDENCE with Protector of Emigrants, *Madras.*

To Captain *C. Biden*, Protector of Emigrants, *Madras.*

Sir, Fort William, 31 October 1857.

HAVING been appointed by the Government to conduct an inquiry into the mortality during the past season which occurred among emigrants from this port to the West Indies, and having been specially directed to ascertain, if possible, the cause of the immunity from sickness enjoyed by those sent from Madras, I have the honour to solicit information on the following points:—

1. The officers appointed to superintend emigration from Madras, their duties and responsibilities.

2. The nature, situation, and arrangements of the depôts.

3. The castes and classes who emigrate; the part of the country they come from, whether inland or on the seaboard; the length of time they spend on the road; the general condition in which they reach the depôt; the average stay at the depôt, and whether they improve in health there or otherwise.

4. The agency employed to obtain them, and the motives which usually induce them to migrate.

5. Their diet, clothing, and general management at the depôt.

6. A list of ships which have carried coolies to the Mauritius or West Indies, specifying name, tonnage, cargo, date of departure, date of arrival, number of men, women and children shipped, mortality on the voyage, and causes of the same.

7. Whether any particular castes and classes are more liable to sickness and mortality than others, and why?

8. To what cause or causes unusual sickness and mortality is ascribed.

II. I am afraid this will give you a great deal of trouble to furnish; and, if you think that a personal visit to Madras is necessary to enable me to form an accurate judgment on the matter, I shall feel much obliged by your kindly communicating the same to

Your most obedient Servant,
F. J. Mouat,
Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, L. P., conducting Special Inquiry.

From Captain *C. Biden*, Protector of Emigrants, *Madras*, to *F. Mouat*, Esq., M. D.,
Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, &c., *Calcutta.*

Sir, Protector's Office, Madras, 27 November 1857.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter under date the 31st ultimo, acquainting me that you had been appointed by Government to conduct an inquiry into the mortality which had prevailed among the emigrants embarked from Calcutta for the West Indies during the last season, and especially to ascertain, if possible, the cause of the immunity enjoyed by those sent from Madras.

1. The duty of the Agent is to obtain and despatch emigrants, and that of the Protector to see that they are not enticed away by false promises, and that proper ships, clothing, and food are provided for them.

2. There

2. There are no depôts belonging to Government until the present season, but each maistry or supplier had his own place for the reception of the coolies he collected.

3. All classes emigrate, except Brahmins, but those who principally offer themselves are of the different Malabar castes from the southern districts, and Gentoos from the northern ones. A few Mussulmans emigrate, but their number is very trifling.

4. The coolies are chiefly from Tanjore, Trichinopoly, and South Arcot in the south, and from Vizagapatam, Ganjam, and Rajahmundry in the north, and their villages are generally inland and not on the seaboards; those from the north exhibit the effects of their long journey. In coming from Tanjore they are 8 to 10 days on the road, while from Rajahmundry they are from 30 to 40. The average stay at any depôt is about 10 to 15 days, during which time they generally exhibit an improvement.

5. The mode of obtaining them is by native maistries, and their motive for emigrating is the advantage to be derived by industrial labour in the West Indies, as they have examples of several return emigrants who have brought back large amounts of savings from their earnings in those colonies.

6. With regard to the diet, they are at present fed by the Emigration Agent at the Government depôt, where their meals are prepared by high caste people. Each emigrant is, moreover, allowed 3 pice per day for condiments. An apothecary as superintendent is attached to the depôt, who lives in the compound, attends to their wants, and affords them immediate medical aid when necessary.

7. Serious cases are sent to the district hospital, over which an European surgeon presides, but others are treated in the depôt hospital.

8. All emigrants on applying for registry at the depôt are professionally examined by the apothecary superintendent, but prior to their being embarked they are again submitted to the inspection of the emigration surgeon.

9. During the term of my experience as Protector of Emigrants, nothing has occurred to show that any particular class was more liable to sickness and mortality than another, whilst proceeding on the voyage to the West Indies, and I am almost certain that the want of cleanliness on the part of the emigrants, crowded decks, insufficient ventilation, bad provisions, and their rice not being well cooked, too much salt, and a lack of anti-scorbutics, &c., are the causes for the outbreak of scurvy, dysentery, cholera, &c., which have caused so great a havoc on board some emigrant ships.

10. I have also enclosed two additional statements, giving all the information in my power respecting the ships that conveyed emigrants to the West Indies as well as the Mauritius from this port.

11. In the hire of ships for emigration every attention should be paid to their perfect efficiency as regards qualifications; they must be ably commanded, well manned, and be thoroughly provided with the means of ventilation and cleanliness, together with a suitable provision of wholesome diet and good clothing for all the vicissitudes of climate to which the emigrants may be exposed.

12. The blue books published under the authority of the House of Commons contain much valuable information on this important and interesting subject, and I would refer you to their useful pages, but, suffering myself from severe indisposition just now, I am unable to enter more fully into detail.

13. I may here mention Mr. J. J. Franklin, the Secretary to the Marine Board and Emigration Agent, whose past experience and able management of that department well qualify him to afford the fullest and most complete information on this very important subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Chris. Biden*, Protector of Emigrants, Madras.

1845.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total Number of Statute Emigrants, calculated according to the Act No. 21 of 1844, and Act No. 25 of 1845.	Date of Sailing.	Remarks.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.			
1	Nester	458	Hugh Macmeikan	188	37	6	1	228	1845: 5 October.	
2	Tory	402	J. Row	174	35	20	-	219	1846: 3 January.	
3	Morley	578	J. W. Hurst	241	38	13	3	285½	6 „	
4	William Abrams	706	J. Hamlin	257	69	27	5	339½	10 „	
5	Martin Luther	450	Jas. Hutton	167	52	23	6	230½	10 „	
6	John Wickliffe	661	B. Daly	263	46	22	3	320	14 „	
7	Tropic	380	John Torar	146	28	26	4	187	17 „	
8	Lady Kennaway	583	B. Avery	237	42	25	5	291½	31 „	
9	Britannia	497	W. Hardie	194	39	30	2	248	6 February.	
10	Raymond	498	Hugh McKay	198	31	12	-	235	17 „	
11	Sir Robert Peel	723	W. Champion	264	72	29	7	350½	21 „	
12	Lord Wm. Bentinck	443	John Allen	169	44	16	3	221	28 „	
				2,498	533	249	39	3,155½		

1846.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total Number of Statute Emigrants, calculated according to the Act No. 21 of 1844, and Act No. 25 of 1845.	Date of Sailing.	Remarks.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant, not included.			
1	City of Poonah	575	C. Nelson	210	50	22	3	271	1846: 3 September.	
2	Hashmy	638	J. Ross	226	41	16	-	275	9 „	
3	Barossa	729	J. Dodd	239	59	37	7	317	27 „	
4	Martin Luther	450	J. Hutton	147	54	48	3	225	6 October.	
5	Timandra	432	J. Lowther	148	41	22	6	200	9 „	
6	John Line	695	H. Arnold	220	73	39	4	312½	14 „	
7	Duke of Portland	533	W. J. Cubitt	171	66	57	4	265½	16 „	
8	Anne Armstrong	889	F. Brad	284	95	42	2	400	31 „	
9	Lady McNaghten	653	J. Hibbert	202	83	59	6	314½	21 November.	
10	Athenian	673	J. Poyntz	199	79	59	16	307½	16 December.	
11	Sea Park	835	T. Humphries	190	99	82	14	330	23 „	
12	Macedon	528	C. Redknap	190	52	44	7	264	1847: 16 January.	
13	Lysander	475	J. Sangster	143	66	56	7	237	20 „	
14	Morley	578	J. W. Hurst	189	74	46	6	286	4 February.	
15	Thetis	550	D. Mainland	187	62	52	6	275	16 „	
16	John Calvin	510	R. L. Hunter	196	40	34	4	253	23 „	
17	Cornwall	872	T. Canney	168	60	54	6	255	28 „	
				3,309	1,094	770	101	4,788		

1847.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total Number of Statute Emigrants, calculated according to the Act No. XXI of 1844, and Act No. XXV of 1845.	Date of Sailing.	Remarks.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.			
1	Poictiers	756	J. Molison	260	50	15	4	317 ½	1847: 28 September	
2	Emerald Isle	501	N. W. Palmer	198	41	22	2	250	1848: 8 January	
3	Candahar	642	J. Goss	217	66	33	4	299 ½	12 „	
4	Lord Hungerford	736	W. H. Norman	222	94	68	5	350	18 „	
5	Apolline	512	F. W. Gardner	174	61	42	3	256	26 „	
6	Morley	578	J. W. Hurst	200	69	34	-	286	8 February	
7	Macedon	528	O. Edwards	181	61	43	3	263 ½	15 „	
8	Orestes	680	E. W. Beazley	204	73	62	5	308	25 „	
				1,656	515	319	26	2,330 ½		

1850.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total Number of Passengers, calculated according to the Act No. XV of 1842.	Date of Sailing.	Date of Arrival.	Remarks.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.				
1	Ship Samarang	582	W. Buckle, esq.	162	36	12	4	204	1850: 25 April	5 June	1 death.
2	Barque Lord Elphinstone	465	J. G. H. Porter	172	48	17	4	228 ½	18 May	26 „	1 ditto.
3	„ Macedon	528	O. F. A. Edwards	221	35	16	5	264	6 June	4 July	1 ditto.
4	„ Minerva	829	G. Coleman	332	57	24	12	401	18 „	14 „	Nil.
5	„ Defiance	512	J. B. Sergent	196	50	20	6	256	26 „	20 „	1 death.
6	„ Nonpareil	455	J. Brown	174	45	16	9	227	6 July	30 „	Nil.
7	„ Dudbrook	600	D. Smith	239	43	28	5	296	25 „	22 August	Nil.
8	Ship Carnatic	632	C. Nelson	271	29	4	4	302	13 August	6 September	9 deaths.
9	Barque Lord Elphinstone	465	J. G. H. Porter	198	32	4	6	232	16 „	18 „	14 ditto.
10	„ China	658	F. F. Maclean	180	39	14	7	226	28 „	19 „	1 ditto.
11	„ Defiance	512	J. B. Sergent	185	62	18	30	256	12 September	5 October	Nil.
12	„ Nonpareil	455	J. Brown	185	38	7	17	226 ½	29 „	28 „	Nil.
13	„ Lady MacNaghten	653	J. Hibbert	227	53	8	16	284	24 October	20 November	1 death.
14	„ Ramillies	757	J. Carvell	186	59	19	30	254 ½	23 November	23 „	Nil.
15	Ship Sophia	537	J. Clobon	196	63	19	27	268 ½	21 December	21 December	Nil.
				3,124	689	226	182	3,926			29, or 0·74 per cent.

1851.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked. Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.	Total No. of Passengers calculated according to the Act No. XV. of 1842.	Date of Sailing.	Date of Arrival.	REMARKS.
									1851.		
1	Barque Ramillies -	757	J. Carvell, Esq.	245	76	12	36	327	4 February -	26 February -	Nil.
2	Ship Phœbe Dunbar -	704	F. Michie - -	221	71	14	34	299	20 March -	3 May -	Nil.
3	Roman Emperor -	793	W. Champion -	220	76	16	48	304	24 April -	26 „ -	Nil.
4	Randolph - - -	761	W. Dale, Esq. -	207	44	6	21	254	28 May -	25 June -	19 Deaths.
5	Regina - - -	801	G. H. Quinton -	222	44	8	31	270	11 June -	12 July -	3 „
6	Eliza - - - -	912	T. Pain - -	280	64	10	55	349	28 „ -	24 „ -	Nil.
7	Roman Emperor -	793	W. Champion -	255	43	14	25	305	15 July -	6 August -	Nil.
8	London - - -	720	T. Sceales -	254	47	8	33	305	31 „ -	27 „ -	1 Death.
9	Sir Robert Seppings -	628	R. S. Stewart -	169	40	16	31	217	15 August -	15 September	Nil.
10	Tartar - - -	567	J. Rudge - -	172	40	6	11	215	13 September	9 October -	Nil.
11	Defiance - - -	512	J. Sergent -	177	49	14	21	233	4 October -	6 November	Nil.
12	Ship Windsor - -	676	W. B. Pryce -	101	37	14	13	145	30 „ -	23 „ -	Nil.
13	Futtah Salam - -	562	G. C. Carrew -	159	60	30	26	234	3 December	1 January -	57 Deaths.*
14	Ship Diadem - -	714	H. C. Cayzer -	123	20	3	1	147	20 „ -	17 „ -	Nil.
				2,805	711	176	386	3,604			80, or 2·22 per cent.

* This vessel experienced two hurricanes, in the second of which all the fresh water was damaged by the casks breaking adrift, and most of the deaths occurred from want of water.

1852.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked. Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.	Total No. of Passengers calculated according to the Act No. XV. of 1842.	Date of Sailing.	Date of Arrival.	REMARKS.
									1852.		
1	Barque Labuan - -	547	W. Scott, Esq. -	157	55	20	15	222	20 January -	17 February -	Nil.
2	Ship John Line - -	695	J. H. Palmer -	168	35	13	11	209½	3 March -	31 March -	Nil.
3	Anna Maria - -	487	E. M. Smith -	202	36	11	3	243½	18 April -	20 May -	Nil.
4	Rodsley - - -	734	J. Sheill - -	318	27	19	3	354½	26 „ -	26 „ -	Nil.
5	Lady Nugent - -	668	F. C. Knight -	251	44	22	12	306	11 May -	11 June -	Nil.
6	John Line - - -	695	J. H. Palmer -	307	20	16	6	344	28 „ -	11 July -	Nil.
7	Lancaster - - -	756	T. B. Thwaites -	258	49	51	6	332½	10 June -	10 „ -	Nil.
8	Barque Bengal - -	582	S. Eddington -	221	29	38	14	269	19 „ -	16 „ -	1 Death.
9	Ship Hempsyke - -	663	G. Barlow -	237	38	26	10	288	29 „ -	31 „ -	Nil.
10	Anna Maria - -	487	E. M. Smith -	215	25	7	4	243½	7 July -	2 August -	Nil.
11	Lady Nugent - -	668	T. C. Knight -	241	52	26	9	306	17 „ -	13 „ -	Nil.
12	William Prowse - -	602	W. William -	236	50	26	13	299	5 August -	31 „ -	Nil.
13	Barque Agincourt -	669	E. S. Pashley -	195	102	67	21	330½	14 „ -	7 September	7 Deaths.*
14	Jane Morrice - -	323	J. Browne -	112	32	20	9	154	28 „ -	18 „ -	2 „
15	Ship John Line - -	695	J. H. Palmer -	261	64	38	17	344	14 September	24 October -	1 „
16	Sir George Seymour -	850	H. Naylor -	274	103	63	34	411	17 October -	15 November	Nil.
17	Barque Albion - -	559	J. Easton -	201	57	24	8	270	2 November	25 „ -	Nil.
				3,854	827	492	195	4,927			10, or 0·20 per cent.

* Cholera broke out on board.

1853.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total No. of Passengers calculated according to the Act No. XV. of 1842.	Date of Sailing.	Date of Arrival.	REMARKS.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.				
									1853.		
1	Futtah Sultan - -	330	J. Norman, Esq.	105	50	20	6	165	7 January -	31 January -	1 Death.
2	Euphrates - - -	557	J. Monro - -	219	49	21	7	278½	29 „ -	1 March -	2 „
3	Mary Harrison - -	659	J. Mackintosh -	213	63	38	11	295	22 April -	18 June -	3 „
4	Futtah Sultan - -	330	W. Johnson -	140	16	18	2	165	15 May -	28 „ -	1 „
5	Catherine Mitchell -	851	J. Baikie - -	343	67	31	8	425½	19 June -	10 July -	2 „
6	Nepaul - - -	405	T. Heddle -	135	44	15	11	186½	25 „ -	19 „ -	Nil.
7	Anglia - - -	570	C. Gardener -	185	77	46	26	285	29 „ -	23 „ -	1 Death.
8	Diadem - - -	714	J. Gillies - -	257	72	56	12	357	11 July -	8 August -	1 „
9	Sea Nymph - -	463	W. Ward - -	192	33	14	5	232	10 August -	31 „ -	Nil.
10	Appleton - - -	967	J. A. M'Donald	345	78	42	14	444	27 „ -	28 September	1 Death.
11	Culloden - - -	726	H. Fergusson -	245	60	23	16	316½	6 September	8 October	Nil.
12	Bellairs - - -	609	H. Rees - -	217	60	30	14	292	17 „ -	21 „ -	4 Deaths.
13	Diadem - - -	714	J. Gillies - -	273	66	36	15	357	5 October -	28 „ -	2 „
14	Edward - - -	671	W. Ware - -	277	63	25	19	352½	18 „ -	15 November	Nil.
				3,146	798	415	166	4,151½			18, or 0·43 per cent.

1856.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total No. of Statute Emigrants calculated according to the Act No. XXI. of 1844 and Act No. XXV. of 1845.	Date of Sailing.	REMARKS.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.			
1	Ship Devonshire -	831	J. G. L. Steere -	212	91	54	13	330	29 February 1856	
1	Ship Blue Jacket -	1,557	- - - -	313	121	77	15	472½	16 Nov. 1856	
2	„ Stamboul -	890	J. W. Smith -	230	94	52	8	350	22 January 1857	

1854.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total Number of Passengers, calculated according to the Act No. XV. of 1842.	Date of Sailing.	Date of Arrival.	REMARKS.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.				
									1854:		
1	Chatham	539	W. Wharton	199	44	16	9	251	6 January	12 February	1 death.
2	Duke of Argyll	629	C. R. Suckling	222	71	44	12	315	14 February	16 March	6 „
3	Nonpareil	455	H. C. Tulioch	171	43	28	3	228	16 „	22 „	3 „
4	John Brightman	404	T. C. Gahan	141	50	23	9	202½	28 „	2 April	2 „
5	Pekin	562	G. Whitby	187	52	33	9	255½	25 March	2 May	1 „
6	Benjn. Bucke Greene	544	J. E. Gammon	194	54	48	16	272	29 „	2 „	1 „
7	Ship Dominion	583	W. Green	272	10	7	2	285½	7 April	10 „	1 „
8	Emerald Isle	537	G. Pellat	215	38	31	5	268½	15 „	12 „	nil.
9	Mary Ann	480	J. H. Roallans	167	56	34	16	240	26 „	3 June	nil.
10	Coldstream	756	J. Adams	276	75	54	20	378	30 „	12 „	1 death.
11	Diana	575	E. Fletcher	201	57	60	10	288	4 May	15 „	2 „
12	Sir George Seymour	850	H. J. Naylor	349	51	22	10	411	10 „	1 September	2 „
13	Diana	377	H. Grant	125	50	28	12	189	16 „	18 June	nil.
14	Anna Maria	487	R. Anvyl	174	49	42	21	244	14 June	13 July	nil.
15	Barque Nonpareil	455⅔	H. C. Tulloch	143	60	51	13	228½	17 „	22 „	1 death.
16	Ship Thomas Lawry	588	J. Dobson	227	53	28	11	294	1 July	27 „	nil.
17	Emerald Isle	537	G. Pellat	186	58	50	18	269	7 „	4 August	7 deaths.
18	Australia	721	B. Avery	200	119	84	32	361	2 August	31 „	2 „
19	Julinder	530	G. Bilton	148	81	72	30	265	6 „	2 September	nil.
20	Sir George Seymour	850	H. J. Naylor	248	115	98	46	412	9 „	15 June	3 deaths.
21	Clairvoyant	429	S. Bird	145	55	29	11	214½	19 „	No date	2 „
22	Narwhal	380	A. Vaulking	120	43	28	14	177	26 „	23 September	1 „
23	John Brightman	404	T. C. Gahan	140	42	41	20	202½	4 October	31 October	1 „
24	Coldstream	756	J. Adams	143	31	25	9	186½	7 „	17 November	1 „
				4,593	1,357	976	358	6,438			45, or 0·69 per cent.

1855.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total Number of Passengers, calculated according to the Act No. XV. of 1842.	Date of Sailing.	Date of Arrival.	REMARKS.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.				
									1855:		
1	Barque Robert Passenger.	478	G.H. Forster, R.N.	170	53	35	20	240¼	8 February	9 March	1 death.
2	Ship Clara	708	H. Peachey	223	96	73	29	355½	28 „	4 „	23 „
3	Barque Futtah Sultan	330	C. W. P. Smith	112	41	24	6	165	24 March	19 May	nil.
4	Teazer	388	A. R. Scandalls	123	51	41	10	194½	25 April	9 June	1 death.
5	Narwhal	380	A. Vaulking	128	45	34	14	190	8 May	14 „	nil.
6	Defiance	512	J. Brown	196	52	24	7	260	11 „	15 „	nil.
7	Robert Passenger	478	G. H. Forster	177	63	45	14	261½	21 „	17 „	nil.
8	Priam	659	P. McFarlane	194	69	35	13	280½	29 June	26 July	nil.
9	Nonpareil	455	W. Farley	153	56	43	15	230½	30 „	3 August	1 death.
10	Ship Sir Edward Parry	575	J. Gray	188	50	28	7	252	6 July	5 „	1 „
11	Colgrain	623	H. C. Looney	196	56	34	11	269	20 „	22 „	nil.
12	Barque Teazer	388	G. A. Phipps	130	49	33	11	195½	24 „	24 „	nil.
13	Lord Hungerford	928	J. W. Hurst	243	113	73	19	392½	4 August	1 September	1 death.
14	Barque Kossuth	559	T. Markham	155	43	26	10	211	4 „	6 November	1 „
15	Ship Lady Macdonald	678	H. Biles	248	69	44	7	339	10 „	3 September	4 „
16	Barque David Malcolm	538	J. B. Lee	174	49	38	10	242	16 „	12 „	2 „
17	Diana	377	H. Gurner	144	30	19	6	183½	26 „	25 „	nil.
18	Ship Blue Jacket	1,557	E. Underwood	473	158	88	24	675	19 September	23 October	23 deaths.
19	Sir Edward Parry	575	J. Gray	150	78	48	23	252	26 „	28 „	nil.
20	Barque Minerva	829	R. H. Johnston	234	104	74	35	375	12 October	9 November	2 deaths.
21	Teazer	388	G. A. Phipps	129	51	28	10	194	16 „	19 „	nil.
22	Narwhal	380	A. Vaulking	128	50	24	14	190	20 „	22 „	nil.
				4,068	1,426	909	315	5,948½			41, or 0·68 per cent.

1856.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total Number of Passengers, calculated according to the Act No. XV. of 1842.	Date of Sailing.	Date of Arrival.	REMARKS.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.				
									1856:		
1	Barque Nonpareil -	455	H. A. Wood -	145	64	36	15	227	22 February -	23 March -	1 death.
2	Ship Granville - -	698	J. G. Baker -	208	86	60	17	324	29 March -	7 May -	24 deaths.
3	Barque Ramillies -	757	C. Hodder -	222	82	56	20	332	1 April -	2 „ - -	nil.
4	Elizabeth - - -	423	D. H. Eaton -	142	56	27	18	211½	18 „ - -	27 „ - -	nil.
5	Ship Defiance - -	512	J. Brown - -	163	70	46	22	256	30 „ - -	5 June -	1 death.
6	Australia - - -	721	J. Gray - -	262	76	44	18	360	15 May -	12 „ - -	nil.
7	Barque Cressy - -	720	A. Tanner -	221	79	40	17	320	4 June -	27 „ - -	nil.
8	Ship Northumberland -	759	J. W. Gill -	275	60	30	14	350	13 „ - -	6 July -	1 death.
9	Barque Nonpareil -	455	J. Rose - -	151	58	36	10	227	21 „ - -	26 „ - -	10 deaths.
10	Ramillies - - -	757	C. Hodder -	254	62	32	14	332	8 July -	5 August -	1 death.
11	Teazer - - -	388	G. A. Phipps -	132	46	32	13	194	12 „ - -	10 „ - -	1 „
12	Elizabeth - - -	440	D. H. Eaton -	143	53	31	3	211½	18 „ - -	19 „ - -	1 „
13	Ship Australia - -	721	J. Cray - -	261	75	48	18	360	7 August -	6 September	3 deaths.
14	Defiance - - -	512	J. Brown - -	163	67	52	10	256	20 „ - -	22 „ - -	nil.
15	Barque Nonpareil -	455	J. Rose - -	142	64	42	18	227	9 September	5 October -	nil.
16	Teazer - - -	388	G. A. Phipps -	130	49	30	7	194	18 „ -	13 „ -	nil.
				3,014	1,047	642	234	4,382			43, or 0.98 per cent.

1857.

Number.	VESSELS' NAMES.	Tonnage.	COMMANDER.	Number Embarked.				Total Number of Passengers, calculated according to the Act No. XV. of 1842.	Date of Sailing.	Date of Arrival.	REMARKS.
				Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children between 1 and 10.	Under 1 Infant not included.				
									1857:		
1	Ship Minden - -	917	E. H. Marshall	297	40	12	5	343	21 May -	21 June -	nil.
2	James Fernie - -	1,037	B. Daily - -	232	87	62	19	350	13 June -	11 July -	3 deaths.
3	White Eagle - -	993	W. Gibbs - -	278	82	59	19	389½	19 „ - -	12 „ - -	nil.
4	Hydroos - - -	505	H. C. Hart -	162	42	32	8	220	27 „ - -	4 August -	nil.
5	Sir E. Parry - -	575	J. Gray - -	175	60	34	9	252	1 July -	—	—
6	Electra - - -	606	H. C. Cayzer -	206	68	59	17	303½	4 „ - -	31 July -	nil.
7	Marshal Pelissier -	612	F. Anderson -	191	83	64	17	306	12 „ - -	29 „ - -	nil.
8	Beemah - - -	887	J. Pickernell -	226	90	69	14	350½	16 „ - -	—	—
9	Sea Nymph - -	464	H. Morwick -	170	48	27	6	231½	21 „ - -	—	—
10	Ship Balaklava - -	621	T. Hobson -	209	81	41	12	310½	11 August -	—	—
11	Duke de Malakoff -	458	J. B. Sergent -	154	58	34	7	229	7 September	—	—
12	Marshal Pelissier -	612	F. Anderson -	182	89	70	22	306	18 „ -	—	—
13	Defiance - - -	512	W. Beenlen -	148	79	59	17	256½	21 October -	—	—
								3,848			3, or 0·08 per cent.

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(No. 9.)

Sir, Fort William, 12 February 1858.

AT the suggestion of Captain Biden, I venture to trouble you for any information you may be able to give me relative to emigrants from Madras.

2. I enclose copy of a letter which I addressed to Captain Biden on the subject.

3. The point which I am especially desirous to ascertain is the cause of the immunity enjoyed by Madras coolies.

4. Do you believe it to be in any way due to the cargoes of the vessels carrying them? This point, a very material one, is not referred to by Captain Biden. I should be glad, therefore, if you could furnish me with a statement of the cargoes of the ships enumerated in Captain Biden's list.

5. I wish also to have printed copies of your rules, regulations, diet lists, and all papers relative to emigrants from your port, and any reports on disease and mortality among them that may exist in your records.

I have, &c.
(signed) *F. J. Mouat,*
Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, L. P.,
Conducting Special Inquiry.

J. J. Franklin, Esq.,
Secretary to the Marine Board, and Emigration Agent,
Madras.

From *J. J. Franklin*, Esq., Colonial Emigration Agent, and Acting Protector of Emigrants, *Madras*, to *F. J. Mouat*, Esq., Inspector of Gaols and Dispensaries, conducting Special Inquiry.

Sir. Colonial Emigration Office, Madras, 8 April 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th February 1858, No. 9, enclosing copy of a letter you had addressed to the late Captain Biden on the subject of emigration, and requesting such informatton thereon as I might be able to afford.

2. I regret that a heavy press of business, consequent on Captain Biden's illness and death, has prevented my replying to your communication earlier. I had, however, seen your letter to him; and, although I did not reply, I furnished him with the information upon which the reply was drawn.

3. The principal aim of your inquiries is to ascertain the cause of the immunity from sickness of the Madras coolie.

4. The only cargo from Madras to the Mauritius is rice and dholl, occasionally intermixed with a sprinkling of ghee, salt fish, and other articles of food. I imagine that the cargoes carried by the Bengal ships are of a similar kind, and I do not attribute the healthiness of our emigrants to the presence or absence of any particular kind of cargo. Occasionally, although not often, they have been sent in a ship with a general cargo; but the result is the same.

5. My impression is that the people themselves are less susceptible of diseases. They are strong and healthy; principally drawn from agricultural employment, and are generally kept in the depôt from eight to 10 and 15 days, or longer if necessary, before embarkation, to allow of their recovering from the fatigue of their journies. Much care is of course taken that none should be sent on board ship with the germ of disease in them. When the slightest indications of cholera show themselves, embarkations are postponed until all probable danger on this score is at an end. But this precaution is doubtless equally practised at Calcutta.

6. I will now proceed to reply seriatim to the various queries put in your letter to the late protector.

1st. The officers appointed to superintend emigration from Madras; their duties and responsibilities.

7. The only three officers appointed by Government are the agent, protector, and surgeon; but the latter two officers being unpaid, the whole supervision practically devolves on the agent. He dispatches emissaries up country to recruit, and arranges, through the collectors of districts, to supply them, and, in fact, not to allow them to leave for the Presidency without sufficient funds for the support of their bands during the journey. The result of this is, that the emigrants arrive in better condition than they otherwise would. On their reaching Madras they are examined by the agent, the apothecary attached to the establishment, and the vaccinator. Those who are considered fit for emigration are registered and sent to the agent's depôt, where they are lodged and fed until embarked. Those rejected are sent back to their country with funds for the journey.

8. On

8. On a sufficient number having been collected, the agent arranges for the engagement of a ship, selecting, if possible, one with side ventilation, although this is not considered absolutely indispensable. The vessel being then fitted up in accordance with the regulations attached to the tender, of which a copy is herewith forwarded, the emigrants are then embarked, after being passed by the emigration surgeon. Clothes are supplied at the same time, according to the scale, likewise enclosed.

9. Prior to embarkation, the agent visits the ship to satisfy himself that the space for the emigrants is clear; that water and provisions are on board of good quality, and to the regulated extent; and that she is in all respects ready for their reception.

10. The protector is of course nominally responsible that these several points are duly attended to; but, as I have before said, they are practically left to the agent, who is paid for the work. The protector has lately received an allowance of 100 rupees a month for his services in examining and reporting on ships arriving from the Mauritius and the West Indies with return coolies, but no remuneration is allowed in consideration of the other duties which might be supposed to devolve on him.

11. The emigration surgeon is merely the surgeon of one of the districts, whose time is so occupied in his other duties that he could not possibly personally examine every individual embarked. This duty therefore practically falls on the emigration apothecary, who is in charge of the depôt.

2dly. The nature, situation, and arrangement of the depôts.

12. Formerly the native maistries, or head men, whose province it was to bring coolies to the agent, had their own depôts, in which the parties were lodged and fed until embarked. This system I found was open to many objections, the principal of which were, that the emigrants were under little or no control; that their daily state of health could not be properly ascertained; and that it opened a door to the desertion from their families of many who were but too willing to abandon them. During the last year I therefore established a depôt of my own, in an airy situation, placing it under the immediate charge of the emigration apothecary, who lives on the ground. The accommodation consists of three lofty and airy cadjan covered sheds, built on three sides of a square, aggregating about 600 feet in length. The ground is well drained by pipes, and a hospital is erected apart from the sheds. Their food, two meals a day, is cooked on the premises by a contractor; and they are allowed a money payment of a quarter of an anna a day to buy tobacco, or any other little matter.

13. By care and attention to cleanliness, and the proper quality and cooking of the food, the depôt is ordinarily the healthiest spot in Madras. A few months back, when cholera was very prevalent all over the town and outskirts, and while the sepoys in their lines, which adjoin, were dying fast, our depôt boasted of perfect immunity for weeks. The scourge, however, at last reached us, for embarkation being stopped, the numbers increased, and on its making its appearance, the emigrants were, as usual in such cases, sent away to a distance, where they were fed and cared for until the disease had ceased.

3dly. The castes and classes who emigrate.

14. The castes are principally Tamuls and Gentoos, the former preponderating. Some Mussulmans also emigrate.

They are principally cultivators, but some artisans proceed also; likewise a few carpenters, bricklayers, &c., and occasionally a domestic servant.

4thly. From what part of the country, &c.

15. Principally from Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Rajahmundry and Vizagapatam. Madura, South Arcot, Masulipatam and Ganjam likewise furnish emigrants in smaller proportions. They are mostly from inland, and are from 10 to 50 days on the road. Those who have performed but a short journey, are generally in a fit state for embarkation a few days after their arrival: the others require longer care.

5thly. How long in the depot, &c.

16. From 10 to 15 or 20 days, during which they show increased improvement.

6thly. The agency employed to obtain them, and their motives for emigration.

17. The agency has already been described. Native recruiters are authorised, by written passes, to proceed up country to collect persons willing to emigrate. These are taken before a Government officer, generally a civilian, and on his ascertaining that they have not been led away by undue promises, he causes their names to be inscribed in a register in duplicate; handing one to a peon, who accompanies them on their journey, with funds for their daily expenses, and sending the other by the post to the agent.

18. The motives that induce emigration are simply those which actuate all persons under similar circumstances; the prospect of bettering their condition.

7thly. Their diet, clothing, and general management at the depot.

Appendix, No. 4.

19. The emigrants have six ollocks of raw rice, issued twice a day in a cooked state, with curry stuff and vegetables—

In the morning for each adult—

Dholl - - - - - -	½ ollock.
Vegetables - - -	4 oz., with curry stuff, ghee, and condiments, &c.

In the evening for each adult—

Salt Fish - - - - -	2 oz.
Vegetables - - -	4 oz., with curry stuff, ghee, and condiments, &c.

20. For sick emigrants in depôt hospital, they are dieted according to their disease by the emigration apothecary. Clothing is not issued at the depôt, unless in exceptional cases, where persons are found to be almost in a state of nudity. As regards management, they are roused up at daylight, their sheds clean swept, and the mats on which they sleep taken out and aired. They are then mustered, and any ailments attended to. They are, moreover, made to take as much exercise as possible, although, like all natives, they are averse to it.

21. Lists of ships which have carried coolies to the Mauritius and West Indies since 1850 are herewith forwarded, showing the mortality in each as far as has been ascertained.

22. By these you will perceive that our losses are very slight, not equal to that experienced among a similar number of individuals on shore. Dysentery is the principal disease under which the emigrants succumb during the passage, excepting when cholera or small-pox break out. This, however, is not frequently the case. No particular castes are more subject to sickness than others, but deaths of course occur more frequently among infants and the old than among the middle aged; and, if humanity did not lead us to permit the embarkation of old persons with their relatives, our losses would be even less than they are.

23. I think I have now furnished you with as full information on the various heads of your letter as can be desired, and hoping that it will be useful.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. J. Franklin*,
Colonial Emigration Agent,
and Acting Protector of Emigrants.

ORAL TESTIMONY of Persons examined in *Calcutta*.

Captain BETHUNE, commanding the "Shah Jehan," stated that he had made three voyages to Mauritius in charge of coolies. His first trip was an unfortunate one, as he had cholera and dysentery on board, from which the emigrants suffered severely.

His ship was always laden with a grain cargo, to which he attributed much of the disease, as the smell from the grain was very offensive, and much heat was caused by it.

He attributed the absence of mortality in emigrant vessels from Madras to their never carrying a cargo of grain, and to their being ballasted with stone and shingle.

He approves of the platforms, and considers them wholesome.

He is of opinion that the existing regulations regarding food, water, space, ventilation, and all that relates to the accommodation of the coolie, to be unexceptionable. He would compel the emigrants to eat their food when it is cooked, and not to reserve a portion until it is cold and unwholesome, as they do at present.

He thinks that ventilators should be carried from the hold to the upper deck, so as not to allow any foul air from the bilge or cargo to find its way among the coolies.

He is strongly of opinion that water, pumped up alongside the ship in Calcutta during the months of February, March, April, and May, is very injurious to health, as it is always brackish and bad tasted.

He does not consider a native doctor to be qualified or sufficient for the medical charge of emigrants, as they have no moral control over them; are not trustworthy; and are not sufficiently careful in enforcing cleanliness.

He is of opinion that the Australian emigration system, with an European surgeon, is the best plan to adopt in coolie ships.

He is sure that rice cargoes never reach their destination without suffering some damage, and that the amount which leaks from the bags, and finds its way to the bilge, is always sufficient to taint the air of the hold.

He is of opinion that the very heavy mortality among the children is due to their being sent at too early an age; to their being too numerous; and to the entire absence of any suitable food for them. Those at the breast suffer most, as from sea sickness and other causes the supply of their natural nourishment fails, and they rapidly pine and die.

Considers the scale of diet for adults to be ample.

Captain W. H. LONGMAN, commanding the ship "Adelaide," deposed that he left the port of Calcutta in the month of December; that the coolies embarked were a fair average batch, and that he had only objected to two old women who were kept alive during the voyage on port wine and sago, but died ultimately in sight of Trinidad.

The

The supply of water taken on board was pumped up from the widow's and orphan's boat, and was filtered river water.

The food was good in quality, sufficient in quantity, and objected to by no one.

The new diet scale was adopted.

His cargo consisted chiefly of rice, but from keeping the hold constantly open, there was no bad smell from it.

His crew was composed of strong, healthy Europeans, who suffered from the same disease as the coolies.

Sickness began near the Sand Heads, and two of the ship's company died, one when they were five days out, the other on the seventh day from leaving the pilot. Both were in good health at the time of embarkation; one was the strongest man in the ship; the other was a midshipman, and both were temperate.

Four coolies died between Calcutta and the Sand-Heads, to which the passage occupied four days. The vessel was provided with platforms. The whole of the coolies were turned up on deck daily, while the main deck was being cleaned. They were kept on deck all day in fine weather, a proceeding essential to their health.

The very sick were always kept near the hatchway, to give them as much fresh air as possible; those who were not seriously ill, or who were only a little out of sorts, were allowed to remain in their own berths.

The "Adelaide" is more than ordinarily well ventilated, having separate ventilators on the deck. In wet weather charcoal braziers were used to dry the lower deck.

Sickness has increased naturally, since the proportion of women and children was augmented. The chief mortality is among infants, for whom no special food was provided on the failure of their natural supply; they all despond, and soon give way under sickness.

In fine weather they all washed their clothes and bodies daily, the men on one side of the deck, the women on the other. A little oil for inunction was given to them every day. They were a cheerful, cleanly lot, and as good a batch as he ever carried, even when he had no sickness on board.

A committee of investigation visited the ship at Trinidad. They took a walk between the decks, but made no particular inquiries or examination, as every one said he was satisfied.

He heard at the colony that the coolies of some ships complained of ill-treatment, particularly those of the "Eveline," and that an inquiry was instituted in consequence.

In his ship the biscuit only was complained of. The coolies could not break it with their teeth, and preferred the biscuit dust to mix with the dholl.

He did not consider himself justified in departing from the strict letter of the charter party, except in very serious circumstances, such as any great amount of sickness.

Did not consider the sickness and mortality on board of his ship to be anything unusual or extraordinary.

Considers experience in their management, both in commanders and surgeons, to be necessary to secure healthiness among coolies.

Does not consider that cargo has any influence on health unless it sweats, as in the case of sugar. Rice would only become an unhealthy cargo if damped, or damaged by wet.

Thinks that it would be well to have special ships fitted and devoted expressly to the transport of coolies, as a regular branch of trade.

Considers the platforms to be useful at the sides of the ship, but to be useless amidships.

Never perceived any unpleasantness below.

Captain HILL states, that he is a protector of emigrants; his duty is to see that his assistant, upon whom the minute details of examination into all that concerns the coolies devolves, discharges that duty carefully and faithfully.

He is also responsible that all regulations for the health and comfort of the emigrants are strictly observed, and that no individual is embarked against his will.

The emigration agent reports the arrival of the coolies, and the ship in which he intends to embark them, to the protector, who immediately sends down his assistant to examine them. He is ex-officio inspector of the depôt, and can exercise complete supervision over all its departments at any time.

Tenders for the conveyance of the emigrants are regularly advertised, and the ships selected are subjected to the most minute inspection.

The senior assistant master-attendant is the official inspector, and regular survey reports are submitted, showing that the requirements of the Act of Parliament are strictly and carefully observed. The greatest care is taken to render the survey complete, and to see that everything requisite for the ship and the coolies is provided in the quantity and of the quality approved.

Considers a rice cargo decidedly unhealthy. Prefers iron to wooden ships in consequence of the former being air-tight, and not permitting the escape of noxious effluvia, which cannot be so well avoided in wooden ships, and is not prevented entirely by battening down the hatches.

The present arrangements for ventilating the main deck are excellent.

Captain WRIGHT, assistant protector of emigrants, stated, that his duty was to see all embarkation arrangements complete in every respect. To examine all provisions on board previous to their being stowed away. To see every cooly at the depôt, and afterwards on board. To countersign all certificates, after the identification of the individuals; to explain

Appendix, No. 4.

explain to the emigrants the length of the voyage, and all they were entitled to in the way of water, provisions, &c. A printed list in English of what they were to be provided with, is also given to them. To return men and old hands, all is again most carefully made known, and they communicate it in turn to the new arrivals, in order that no one may be defrauded of his just rights.

The embarkation is superintended in person by Mr. Caird and the assistant protector, who never lose sight of them until the ship is fairly under weigh.

It is impossible for any one really very ill or emaciated, or unable to walk, to escape notice from the extreme care with which this duty is performed.

He does not approve of platforms; thinks they impede circulation of air, prevent the cleaning of the decks, interfere with free ventilation, and cause those sleeping under the tubes to lie in draughts, which renders them very sickly.

He carried coolies many times from Calcutta to Mauritius without air-tubes or platforms, and lost only 1 per cent.

The decks of emigrant ships should not be hampered, and the privies to be wholesome should be outside. They should be in the fore-chains; thus placed, they would not be safe in ships without chains, or under 700 tons burthen.

He is of opinion that coolies will always be sickly where compulsory cleanliness is not enforced by the commander of the ship. He is also strongly of opinion that the surgeon should be able to communicate personally with the coolies, and should have a native assistant as compounder and dresser.

From November to the 15th of June the water supplied should be taken from tanks, and not from the river, which is invariably brackish between the periods mentioned.

He more than once compelled commanders to start their casks for taking in water at wrong time of the tides.

He attributes sickness in the river to the coolies over-eating themselves previous to embarkation and not to mere detention in the river.

All supplies of every description for sick and well are ample.

He would change the diet; would give flour to all who had been used to eat chupatties, (the natives of Behar and Goruckpore), and would serve out a little salt-fish every day to Mussulmans, and those whose diet was currie and rice on shore. He attributes much of the sickness on first embarkation to the change of diet; the food being different to that they had been accustomed to.

Thinks that the coolies who now migrate are a better class than those of former years, when the mortality among them was less.

Success in carrying coolies depends entirely on the strictness with which the regulations regarding them are obeyed. The finest and healthiest coolies will sicken and die, if not compelled to be cleanly by the ratan. The sickly, if properly cared for, get stronger and healthier at sea. The women are invariably the most troublesome in this respect. He always gave them tamarind water to clean their hair.

Is of opinion that rice is an unwholesome cargo, if the hatches are open and not carefully caulked down. Rice heats the ship considerably. There should be no openings from the hold to the main deck.

Considers that in all ships carrying children, arrangements should be made for feeding them with sago and similar substances. The mothers are rapidly prostrated by sea sickness, and unable to nurse them. The men will not attend to them or their wants.

Thinks that the windsails should be triced up to the beams, and the ventilators be so arranged as that the wind should not blow directly on the bodies of the coolies, which is a frequent cause of severe sickness.

The main deck should be holy-stoned and washed twice a week at least, and the people should be kept on deck as much as possible. In fine weather they should be allowed to sleep on deck.

The women and children should be on the poop, or quarter-deck, for at least three hours every day.

Is convinced that one meal a day, in the afternoon, is the most healthy practice, and that the people should be brought on deck every time the place below is cleaned.

Believes that a separate sick-bay will not answer; the people will not go into it. He would have a place on deck for all serious cases of dysentery, small-pox, &c., and their occupying it should be compulsory.

From his long and intimate acquaintance with coolies and their habits, is disposed to attribute sickness, when it occurs, entirely to want of care and attention on board, and not to any defect or shortcoming in the shore arrangements.

Is sure that the increased proportion of women and children increases the risk of disease, from the extreme difficulty of compelling them to be cleanly. Any want of care in such cases would certainly tend to raise mortality.

Mr. CHENNELL was surgeon of the "Wellesley," on her last voyage to the West Indies, and in medical charge of the emigrants embarked on that vessel. He assisted in their medical examination previous to their selection, and had experience of emigrants before. He observed a larger proportion of Chota Nagpore people than on former occasions, but considered the coolies a fair average lot. He objected to a few old people, but his objections were overruled by the emigration agent, on the ground that it would not be right to separate the members of the same family. On the whole, however, he considered them a fair batch.

He

He was satisfied that all the rules and arrangements for securing adequate space, ventilation, &c., were complied with.

With the exception of the old people referred to, no sickness occurred in the river or until they had been some days at sea.

He was satisfied that the medical examination at the depot, at which he was present, was carefully conducted, and that, with the exception of the old people objected to, every one was in a fit state for embarkation.

The food and water issued in the river were those supplied for the voyage; the latter was not obtained from the river.

Considered the ventilation excellent and all that could be desired. The ports were closed at night, or in heavy weather. Does not attribute any of the sickness to this cause.

The food was good, sufficient in quantity, and not objected to as regards quality. The breakfast was at first believed by the coolies to have disagreed with them; they referred only to the biscuit. On the whole, is not disposed to attribute any of the sickness to the food.

Considered that cleanliness was preserved below. Each man cleaned his own berth, and the whole deck was dry holy-stoned twice a week. Does not assign any of the sickness to want of cleanliness He himself superintended it, and saw that it was well done. They were all brought on deck, to have the place thoroughly cleansed; the sick only remaining below.

There was no privies of any kind below. Bed-pans were used for the sick. For purposes of nature, all hands—men, women, and children—were compelled to go on deck. The latter alone, in early infancy probably, defecated below, and their mothers carried it away.

The deck privies were sufficient for all the uses of the emigrants.

They were taken on deck to bathe, and compelled to wash themselves, except in cold weather.

They washed their clothes with country soap, in salt water. The topazes washed the clothes of the sick coolies.

He does not ascribe any of the sickness to want of cleanliness of clothes or persons.

The general character of the disease from which they suffered was a low typhoid fever, not paroxysmal in character. The dysenteric symptoms followed it. In some cases, but they were few in number, the dysentery occurred in the beginning of the disease.

Medicines and medical comforts were abundant on board.

The only cargo he considers unhealthy is rice; the people sleeping near the hatches were the most sickly. There was a strange sickening smell from the rice, and much heat was evolved from it.

Does not believe or regard the voyage to have been unhealthy, or the loss by death to have been anything unusual.

The difference in the mortality of the women and children he assigns to their dirty habits.

He is of opinion that the mortality in the "Sir Robert Seppings" and "Roman Emperor" was partly caused by a want of energy on the part of the surgeons, in not having "a good eye for dirt."

Does not deem a separate hospital to be necessary; believes that it is better to leave the sick to the care of their own friends.

Approves of the platforms, and considers them wholesome.

Is of opinion that water should never be taken from the river at low tide.

The mortality on the "Wellesley" comprised seven men, six women, two boys, two girls, and two infants.

Of these, one infant was still-born; one man was lost overboard; and three were found dead on the morning after a cyclone, in the Bay of Bengal. This statement is from recollection, his journals not being in his possession.

The following written memorandum was subsequently handed in by the same witness:—

"I am of opinion that the effluvium from the rice is productive of disease. My reason for thinking so is, that the deaths on board the 'Wellesley' happened in the immediate vicinity of the after-hatch, which was almost constantly open during the day, in order to serve out provisions, and through which all or most of the steam of the rice ascended.

(signed) *S. Payne Chennell*, Surgeon."

Captain DONALD, commander of the ship "Appleton," has carried 2,000 coolies to the Mauritius, and has sailed with emigrants from Madras, as well as from this port.

He considers all the arrangements of this port to be better than those of Madras. He ascribes the superior healthiness of Madras coolies to their being a different race of people, chiefly from the coast, accustomed to the sea, more cleanly in their habits, more cheerful and less despondent in sickness, always ready to bear a hand when required, and a different class altogether.

Considers rice an unhealthy cargo for a crowded ship.

Is of opinion that the health of coolies depends essentially on the enforcement of cleanliness, and keeping them as much as possible on deck.

The ship ought to be cleansed every day, and dry holy-stoned and scrubbed once a week. Swinging stoves should be used to dry the lower deck after washing.

In fine weather the coolies should be encouraged to sleep on deck as much as possible. In all his own voyages he has been very careful, and he attributes his success to the measures of cleanliness he enforced.

He prefers the old diet scale, without biscuit, to the new.

Appendix, No. 4.

The water should never be taken from the river in the N.W. monsoon, and at any time, except in the rains, during the flood, and at neap tides. He likes the platforms, and prefers the old system of diet.

Captain STEERE, commander of the "Devonshire," had several times carried emigrants, twice from Madras to the West Indies, once as chief officer, once as commander.

Madras coolies are healthier than those of Bengal, and resist disease better from having more stamina.

The Calcutta arrangements are decidedly superior to those of Madras.

He was unlucky in his last trip to Mauritius, and lost several coolies from cholera in the rivers, in consequence of being detained for twelve days from the breaking down of the steamer.

The lower deck should be dry holy-stoned and scraped every day, and the coolies compelled to remain as much as possible on deck.

Washing must be in some degree compulsory, to keep the people clean.

The privies were all on deck, and there were scuppers on the lower deck.

Bengalis are more cleanly than Madrassees in their personal habits.

Regards the enforcement of cleanliness as one of the most essential conditions of health on board.

The water of his ship was taken in alongside. It ought only to be taken in during the rains, or at neap tides.

He considers rice an unpleasant, but is not prepared to say that it is an unhealthy cargo. It is very heating. Believes that cargo has something to say to health, because no ship is so healthy as one in dry ballast.

Decidedly thinks that every care and attention are paid to the coolies by the authorities in Calcutta.

Is of opinion that when disease occurs in the river, it is brought on board, as was the case in his last voyage.

The ports are always closed at 8 p.m., except the stern ports, which are only closed in very bad weather. He does not attribute any of the sickness to want of ventilation.

He prefers the platforms, as they are drier than the deck, but he likes to keep the middle passage free.

Prefers the new diet of biscuit, as it enables the coolies to get an earlier breakfast; rice having to be cooked before it is eaten, which biscuit does not need.

Considers that the decks ought to be hampered as little as possible, and that privies ought, where practicable, to be built outside the ship, on the fore-chains.

Is of opinion that, in all large ships, a water-distilling apparatus should be carried. Believes a gallon of fresh water daily to be ample for cooking and drinking.

Captain PEPPERCORNE, commanding the "Bucephalus," stated, that his last voyage was the first in which he took coolies to Demerara, and that they appeared to be a healthy set prior to embarkation.

He was four days in making the passage from Calcutta to the Sand Heads, one being a day of detention, from the absence of the steamer.

One death occurred between Calcutta and the Sand Heads. He left on the 2d of November 1856. The water supply was pumped on board from alongside.

The ports were open the whole way, except for three or four days off the Cape.

Five or six deaths occurred in the Bay of Bengal, but the greater number happened between St. Helena and the West Indies.

The ship was furnished with platforms.

The main deck was dry holy-stoned frequently, and on very fine days was washed, all the people being on deck; this was chiefly during the latter part of the voyage.

They were very healthy off the Cape There were 33 deaths among 350 adults. Mr. Austin and the port surgeon went on board and examined the ship on her arrival at Demerara. A court of inquiry was held regarding the mortality. The surgeon in charge of the ship was examined, and the commander was questioned on board, but the latter did not appear before the Court.

The means and times of cleaning the platforms were the same as those of the deck.

The cargo consisted exclusively of rice. The crew were healthy. The hatches of the hold were open every day. Did not remark any particular unhealthiness traceable to the rice cargo.

The third mate and steward issued each day's supplies every morning. The children were fed on the same food as the adults; there were sago and arrow-root on board, but for the sick only. The coolies complained of the muskoalie dholl, chiefly after sickness broke out on leaving St. Helena.

The only other article of food objected to was the biscuit supplied by Messrs. Ahmuty & Co. It was said to have been badly baked, and soon to have become weevilly. This result was probably due to stowing imperfectly baked biscuits over a rice cargo.

The surgeon was not sufficiently careful in enforcing cleanliness. The commander did not compel him to do his duty in this respect; he did not consider that it was incumbent on him to do so.

[On being pressed on this point, Captain Peppercorne thought he ought to have been more strict in the matter.]

The washing of the clothes and persons of the coolies was compulsory.

[It

[It was pointed out to Captain Peppercorne that this was inconsistent with his statement at Demerara. He adhered to the assertion above recorded.]

The coolies who survived the voyage and were landed, were a fine set of men. He did not perceive any difference between them and those who died.

The most active were the most healthy.

The objections of the commander, as contained in his statement in the West Indies, were not founded on personal observation, but based entirely on the report of the surgeon.

Was only certain that all the coolies were on deck twice a week, when the main deck was washed. He had no means of compelling them to go, and none were used.

Off the Cape he had the sick brought on the quarter-deck, to be able to look after them himself, as he believed that the surgeon had previously not done his duty fairly. An improvement in the health of the emigrants was marked and immediate, and he attributed it to rousing them up on deck daily.

After leaving St. Helena the coolies rapidly relapsed into their old habits, and became extremely sickly.

He did not again interfere with them, although he endeavoured to get them up daily. But the surgeon did not like their being interfered with, so he did not press the matter.

He did not consider the surgeon (Hatchell) to be fit for his office, as he was much too lenient towards the coolies.

While he had no doubt that much of the sickness resulted from the people being left too much below, he did not insist upon their being brought up after leaving the Cape, notwithstanding the striking benefit of the measure when employed.

He went down below once a week; the ship's officers every day.

Dr. NEWBOLT, surgeon of the "Devonshire," went in her on her last trip to Mauritius. He was present at the medical examination at the depôt in Calcutta. So far as he was concerned, it was a mere inspection.

He thought a few looked delicate, and objected to them, but they were all embarked, as they had relatives among those selected. There were some of the people whom he would have rejected, had he believed that he possessed the power to do so.

Three of those whom he objected to, were among the first who died.

He considered that the outbreak of cholera which occurred was due to the water, which was in undue proportion to the food.

The first case occurred at Fultah; all the coolies concealed their diseases as much and as long as possible.

The vessel carried a rice cargo. He had everything that was wanted for the care and treatment of the sick. He considered the ventilation and conservancy arrangements to be complete, and to require no change.

He is an advocate for ships going in ballast, as more healthy than a grain cargo.

Is of opinion that the medical officer of the ship should possess an absolute veto in the selection of a cooly; that he should, in fact, be able to reject him entirely; and that he should take an active part in the main examination, and countersign the certificate.

Mr. LAING.—I was pilot of the ship "Adelaide" in December last.

I saw one cooly boy taken on board of her in a dying state from cholera, the reason assigned for putting him on board was, that he was one of a large party.

The general condition of the people was good, they appeared strong and healthy.

There was ample space and ventilation for them.

I considered the biscuit dict insufficient, and I advised the captain to give them rice.

The doctor appeared very attentive.

The commander and officers were also attentive.

I think there were two deaths, an old man and a boy.

Generally, the very old members of a family and infants die during the passage to sea.

I was pilot of the ship "Sir George Seymour" in December last.

To the best of my recollection the party for this vessel were all strong and well. But I believe we lost a man from cholera.

I saw no apparent cause for it, they had plenty of room and ventilation.

Their food was first-rate, biscuit very good.

I do not remember the doctor, but to the best of my recollection he was a very good man.

The captain was an exceedingly active man, and very attentive to the people; his officers were also good men.

I did not apprehend from the appearance of the people any sickness amongst them when they got fairly to sea.

Generally the men for the West India emigration have appeared strong and healthy; but there were a few old people amongst them said to belong to emigration parties.

I was also pilot of the ship "Merchantman" in February last.

The party of coolies appeared generally strong and healthy.

I believe there were one or two deaths from cholera, during our passage to sea.

I could not perceive any exciting cause. The ship was a splendid vessel, with plenty of ventilation.

I am under the impression that the doctor of this vessel did not attend to the people.

We had a quick passage to sea.

The captain and officers were attentive to the people.

The people had biscuit issued to them for their first day's diet. I did not perceive any ill effects from it.

Appendix, No. 4.

Captain PARISH, commander of the ship "Wellesley," states that the party of people in majority were stout able men, but there was a number, about one dczen, of old and decrepit men, who were protested against; they were said to belong to families.

That number included the old women also,—five or six of them died; they were sickly as well as decrepit when embarked.

Water was filled from the river, but I am not certain at what period of the tide; the doctor tasted the water previous to its being pumped in.

No sickness prevailed in the Hooghly or at the Sand-Heads.

The people complained of the biscuit at first, but became reconciled, and afterwards liked it; does not think it disagreed with them.

The cause of the sickness in my opinion was the sudden change of temperature during a gale we suffered from in the Bay of Bengal, it was hot and cold within an hour, and I had 28 of my own men laid up with low fever and dysentery.

The wind was all round mostly from S. W. Dysentery never left the ship afterwards. There was rain during the first part of the gale, and much damp air. Ventilation was through air funnels and tubes, windsails, ports and scuttles.

The deck was dry holy-stoned and scraped every morning.

When the weather was very settled and dry, the decks were well washed. The coolies were compelled to wash themselves and clothes.

Fumigation was effected with chloride of lime.

Our cargo consisted of rice.

We had air-holes in our between-decks, which communicated with the hold.

I did not perceive any bad effluvia from the hold, no discoloration of the paint work.

We had two ventilators aft, leading from the hold to the upper deck.

The sickness commenced, as I have described, in the Bay of Bengal, and was continued during the voyage, none of the crew died.

I think it would be an improvement if part of the platforms were removed either from the sides or amidships, but I consider them useful. When the coolies arrived in the West Indies, the ship was generally examined; state of the men, the decks, ventilation, and the food examined also.

The examination was perfectly satisfactory.

I should suggest, that practised men should go with the young emigrants as far as the Sand-Heads, to put them into training, as we know nothing of the habits of coolies.

I think the arrangement of their food satisfactory.

I consider keeping them upon deck as much as possible very beneficial.

Captain R. H. C. SIMS, commanding ship "Eveline," left Trinidad 8th October.

We left Calcutta on 10th January 1857, with coolies, 345 adults, and about 120 women and children.

The proportion of jungly men was great, and much inferior to the others.

Mr. Caird remarked, "You may have some trouble with them," and sent a native doctor to go as far as the Sand-Heads with us.

One man died of cholera almost immediately after his embarkation; cannot say positively if he was a jungly or not; another patient died of cholera before we left the river.

We had several cases of diarrhœa during our passage down the river; most of the cases terminated fatally before we got to 10° north lat., within the period of a fortnight. We had fair fine wind, and not much motion.

The ship's water was filled from the river, pumped into the ship through a filtering boat. I cannot say at what time of tide.

Many of the crew were also complaining of diarrhœa. I cannot say if this was through the water.

One man died; all of us suffered, and were ill about the same time from bowel complaints. I was better than many others.

The sickness continued within a week of St. Helena, 45 days after our departure from Calcutta, then we had no deaths for a week.

We did not fill any water at St. Helena.

After an interval of a week the illness assumed another form; they suffered for a longer period; in the first instance their deaths were sudden.

The doctor watched them very narrowly; the people were kept on deck, as the weather was very fine throughout our voyage.

The sickness prevailed amongst our crew the whole of the voyage.

My crew consisted of fine, stout, able men, when we left the Hooghly, but there was only one fatal case.

I attributed the sickness amongst the coolies to their being junglies, and inferior as a body of men to others I had seen.

I attributed the sickness amongst the crew to fear and a kind of panic.

I sent several to the hospital, and the crew were much the worse for the voyage.

They did not drink the Calcutta water; indeed, towards the end of the voyage, every one had Thames water.

My crew improved after arrival; they had water from the shore. I believe the recovery was from relief of their mind, the coolies being on shore.

There was no change made in the coolies' diet during the voyage. I and the doctor consulted about a change. I wanted to give them more rice and less biscuit; no change was made, but the sick received sago and arrow-root. They received full allowance of provisions, but sugar and biscuit the first day.

Had

Had I possessed the authority I should have altered their diet to rice and dhall, less biscuit. The doctor disapproved of the biscuit for the same reason as myself, the people did not like it, and it did not seem to agree with them.

I have no evidence that it did disagree with them. But neither of us thought proper to alter their diet, because we had a scale given us, and no authority to depart from it.

I was very glad I did not, because the immigration agent general at Trinidad told me if I had altered the diet, I should have been tried for manslaughter, or under the circumstances of such great mortality, I should have subjected myself to trial for manslaughter; I thought the people brought the disease with them, and the doctor thought it was something like a plague.

The coolies' food was examined as to its cooking frequently by the doctor and myself.

I sometimes found the rice not properly cooked; the rice was washed in salt-water, boiled in fresh.

Our decks were kept dry holy-stoned, rarely washed, and only during very dry fair weather.

We used chloride of lime constantly, also chloride of zinc.

The chloride of lime was kept in jars.

We had a good current of air through the deck, also windsails.

Our loss amounted to 67 in all, about 54 adults and 13 children, principally jungly coolies.

We had platforms along the sides of the vessel and midships.

I think the midship one is good, but those along the side were not; they impede ventilation; but I should put them up if a larger number than 350 were allowed to my ship.

The ship was very carefully examined before the coolies were disembarked.

I think a native doctor, if he understands his business, would be better adapted to take care of coolies than an English surgeon; the native understands their language, and is acquainted with their habits, &c. I would suggest their diet should consist of rice, dholl, and choorah, and a very little biscuit to serve out during bad weather. Flour also would be of service.

I meant by a bad class of men, men likely to fall sick. I thought they were sickly, but as far as I know about them, I could not say what they were when they first came on board, but when I got to sea, I was dissatisfied several days afterwards.

I did not send any report book that I know of.

I believe a report was sent from the ship.

My cargo consisted of rice, ballam rice; the hatchways were closed.

There was free communication between the hold and 'tween deck.

I have remarked that a rice cargo was a very hot one, out of my cargo only three bags were damaged.

There was no unpleasant effluvia from it.

I attributed the sickness after leaving St. Helena to the sickness being on board, notwithstanding its altered form.

The women gave less trouble than the men, and there was less mortality amongst them: my people were kept on deck as much as possible; our scuttles were constantly open.

The people always below at night.

Captain CLARK, commanding the "Sir Robert Seppings," left Calcutta with coolies on 25th November 1856.

I took to Demerara 272 adults, and landed 211 adults.

The sickness commenced when the pilot was about to leave us, the third day from Calcutta.

Thirty or 40 cases of diarrhœa and dysentery. They stated that they had been suffering from those diseases in the depôt: some had lost relations.

No application was made to the doctor before the third day. I think this as very remarkable, and the doctor questioned them very particularly. Some of them said that they had been put up to concealing their sickness by people in the depôt.

The illness continued throughout the voyage.

I touched at St. Helena and filled up our water there.

The sickness was more virulent after leaving St. Helena: this I attributed to the change of temperature, from a cold to a hot climate very suddenly.

The people were kept to the regular scale of diet.

The coolies complained against the biscuit; they could not digest it. With the concurrence of the doctor we shortened the allowance of biscuit, and issued more rice.

I cannot say whether it had a beneficial effect. This change in the diet was made shortly after crossing the Equator.

We also stopped the mauskolie dhall; the doctor did not like the black dhall.

I did not observe any difference in the people's health from the change.

There were not more than 20 deaths to St. Helena, but from St. Helena we lost 40.

We got some vegetables for them at St. Helena, but not a large quantity.

They expressed a great desire for meat; I gave them meat two or three times, and thought it did them good.

I had a lascar crew: the crew suffered towards the end of the voyage from dysentery. I had no fatal cases. I attributed their sickness to their having mixed themselves up with the coolies.

Their berth was above, but they went below to talk with the coolies.

The sickness amongst the crew ceased after our arrival at Demerara.

Appendix, No. 4.

The lascars had the same water and food issued to them that the coolies had, with the addition of salt meat, fish, tea, &c. They were much better fed. I and the doctor suffered the whole voyage from dysentery attacks.

I attributed my illness to mixing up with the coolies.

These coolies required to be sent on deck.

Some were kept up day and night; 30 or 40. I think they suffered less. But I am not positive; our decks were ventilated by hatchways and side scuttles.

The decks are cleaned with wet swabbing and dry scraping, and dry holy-stoning once a week.

Fumigating was effected with charcoal, swinging stoves, and chloride of lime and chloride of zinc. We never suffered from any bad smell, except when they were all below at night time.

They were very dirty people; did not wash until compelled, but we were compelled to make them wash themselves and their clothes about once a week.

Their clothes were hung up to dry. The women were as difficult to get to clean themselves as the men, but were made to clean themselves.

I remarked that those who kept themselves very clean did not suffer at all, the women as well as men.

We have no authority to coerce; but I think if we had a little more power it would be better for them and conducive to health; allowed to be so, they were dirty night and day.

My vessel was visited and examined very minutely when she arrived.

Some of our sick had wine, and the men in health rum, almost every day.

They took anything from my table readily, and craved for meat constantly; one man, a brahmin, took anything; the jungly men suffered most; the strongest and finest went off most suddenly; the people from about Calcutta were the most healthy.

When I first saw my party I thought them a shabby lot; sickly, weak-looking; I did not object to any of them. My doctor did to two or three, but his objection was overruled; but I am not certain what his objections were.

The people conceal their sickness to a very great extent.

I think the platforms round the side very good, but bad in amidship.

I think I have always carried coolies more successfully under the old diet scale of rice, dhall, chura, &c.

I did not anticipate from the appearance of the men any unusual sickness or mortality.

Our cargo consisted of rice. I did not perceive any ill effects from it.

After our decks were cleaned and the people on deck there was no perceptible close smell.

I kept the people on deck as much as possible; they were very averse to remaining on deck.

I think the sickness after leaving St. Helena was attributable to the same causes as before we arrived there.

Captain JOHN LAWSON, of the "Hamilla Mitchell." Has only carried coolies once.

Left Demerara 25th September 1857. Conveyed 277 altogether, most of them in good health, but a few affected with diarrhœa.

Had eight deaths during the voyage to Calcutta. Only one of that number was sick when he came on board. Ship was ballasted with iron for the railway company.

Water was stowed in casks, filled in London; had no symptoms of diarrhœa amongst the crew before arrival at Demerara.

Did not find any particular disease prevalent at Demerara.

The coolies' diet consisted of rice, dholl, ghee, salt, and salt-fish occasionally, also biscuit occasionally, during bad weather, and as a reward for working well.

They appeared to prefer the biscuit to rice, particularly when they could get salt-fish with it.

They did not give any trouble about their diet or caste; had few or no prejudices. They would have eaten food from my table.

About a fortnight after our departure from Demerara we had a sort of epidemic amongst them, a sort of diarrhœa, that we attributed to change of diet, but they soon grew better under treatment and stoppage of the dholl.

We commenced our voyage with English split-peas, but after the sickness gave them Indian dholl; in small quantity at first, and peas afterwards.

The deaths occurred at irregular intervals during the voyage, and did not appear to depend upon the climate. We gave them rice during cold weather. We used chloride of lime, with addition of a little muriatic acid which we found disengaged the chloride more effectually, and in greater volume.

We cleared our lower deck by damping it with a swab, and then scraping it thoroughly dry.

There was a close heavy smell below when the people were all there; the people were kept on deck as much as possible, and a few slept on deck during fine weather.

Those men who were on deck, working about, and apparently most intelligent, suffered least; those who remained below were most subject to disease.

Experienced great difficulty in getting them to keep themselves clean, or wash their clothes; with the women more particularly; they had only salt water and no soap.

I think salt-water soap would be very beneficial, and a little authority given to the captains would also be of great service; he could then compel cleanliness; our decks were free from platforms.

I think

I think platforms placed round the sides of the vessels preferable to having them in midship.

I do not consider they interfere with cleanliness at all, but I do think they interfere with the ventilation, yet I should prefer having them.

I never gave my party salt meat, but think a little salt fish now and then beneficial.

My deck was ventilated by four hatchways, and four cawl-headed tubes, one forward, one aft, and two in the main hatch; the lower part of the tube just cleared the under side of the deck and windsails for each hatchway, two for the main hatch, one each. I think instead of the order not to work the people, it would be very beneficial if the charter-party insisted upon the captains keeping them at work.

I think some of the people might be kept on deck during very bad weather; and at all times, except during rainy weather, to keep one-third of them on deck day or night; that is, the single men.

I think the windsails might be much larger to advantage.

The children are very troublesome, making much dirt about the between deck, particularly at night; indeed the men and women also are very much disposed to dirty the deck instead of going to the necessaries.

We found flour substituted for dholl very beneficial during the time dysentery was prevalent.

I think it most desirable the doctor should be assisted by an intelligent, trustworthy interpreter.

Captain E. Rowe—Has been eight or nine voyages with coolies to the Mauritius, always from Calcutta, at all periods of the year.

The greatest mortality experienced during any one voyage was four.

The prevalent diseases were dysentery, diarrhœa, and fever.

During the S.W. monsoon they prevailed most about the beginning of the voyage, in the N.E. Monsoon mostly towards the end of the voyage.

I think the parties come on board in good condition.

I have taken them under both diet scales, but have not observed any difference of condition under the new scale, with biscuit, instead of churah and gram.

Has not heard any complaints about the change of diet or against the use of biscuit.

Has always used the river water, filled about the last quarter ebb. It never was complained against.

Always made a practice of keeping the men at work and on deck, during the daytime, not at night.

Had much trouble to keep the people clean; much more trouble with the women and children; the children dirtied about the lower deck at night; sometimes they dirtied the upper deck at night.

Has not been with coolies since the platforms have been introduced.

I think it would be quite possible to keep one-third of the males on deck night or day; during fine weather perhaps there might be some advantage derivable from the practice.

When all the people are below there is a close heavy smell.

Used chloride of lime to purify the deck.

Washed and holy-stoned the deck twice a week in dry weather. During wet weather the decks were swept only.

I do not think the ventilation could be placed to greater advantage, but the windsails could be made larger to advantage.

The windsails usually hung within three feet of the lower deck.

I do not think there is a sufficiency of proper food for children.

Burgoo of any kind would be very beneficial.

The medical comforts were rarely sufficient for the voyage.

Preserved milk, with flour to thicken it, might be very beneficial to women with very young children, or after confinement, and to dysenteric patients exceedingly so.

Has always carried grain cargo, but never observed any bad smell from it.

Rice is a very hot cargo, and sometimes sweats.

Never observed any ill effects from the small amount of damaged cargo, 20 or 30 bags.

Cannot suggest anything in addition to present arrangement to secure the coolies' comfort or health, but a little more authority might be given to the captain and surgeon, so as to enforce cleanliness.

Dr. Wm. Dyas.—Had charge of the coolies by the ship "Eveline" from Trinidad, 319 adults, about 30 women and 20 children.

When first put on board they were generally in good health; about 10 or 12 were invalids, all males; nine of this family died; disease prevailed most among the males.

The women were the dirtiest and most difficult to keep clean.

The children were less difficult to manage; cases of dysentery and diarrhœa were difficult to subdue when the patients had been accustomed to the use of narcotics.

Had several such cases.

Had the greatest difficulty in keeping the party on the upper deck in the air. They would creep down below and stow themselves away in their dirt, unless roused up almost by force.

Did not find the diet disagree with them, but considered the rice and dholl deficient in nourishment, and found it necessary to issue flour towards the end of the voyage to those who were most debilitated.

Appendix, No. 4.

Considers flour a very necessary adjunct to the medical comforts, and thinks flour added to their usual diet occasionally would be of much benefit.

Does not think biscuit so good a food as flour, which the people would cook their own way.

The coolies eat a large quantity of rice, because rice is not of a very nutritious nature, and a small portion of flour would be very desirable to displace the large bulk of rice.

The coolies were only allowed one full meal a day, but does not think that would answer with coolies from this country; for instance, those leaving this are generally half-starved, and would suggest a very gradual increase from a minimum to the full scale of the rations, so as to accustom their stomach to a full meal.

Does not think the platforms good things, because those at the top have the advantage of all the ventilation from the scuttles, and those below none of it. Thirdly, those underneath stow away dirt, and render cleanliness almost impracticable, and in cleaning the decks, the platforms obstruct the sweepers and cleansers.

A hospital fitted up in midships is bad; it should be entirely distinct, closed off by a close partition near the stern windows or ports.

Should very infectious disease prevail, it would be requisite to separate the patients entirely from the healthy people, but thinks an hospital upon deck would be most beneficial, and when possible, should always be on the upper deck.

Considers a certain amount of authority should be given to the captains and surgeon superintendents to compel the coolies to keep themselves clean, and in sanitary arrangements with European emigrants, it is sometimes found necessary to stop provisions or water, to enforce regularity and cleanliness.

Considers an interpreter very requisite, since few commanders or surgeon superintendents understand the language or habits of the Indians. The natives of India should be preferred, as being best acquainted with their language and habits.

If practicable, it would be desirable to have one-third the number on deck at night during fine weather, and also good for them if they were made to pull ropes, &c.

Considers the ventilation generally provided sufficient.

Windsails are certainly desirable and necessary, particularly within the tropics, and the windsails may be either increased in number or size.

Considers the caul-headed ventilators usually fitted in the fore part of vessels are beneficial.

Windsails are frequently tied below by the people.

Preserved milk is not usually good for anything, but does occasionally turn out well; then it decidedly would be an excellent thing to add to arrow-root or sago, the preference being given to arrow-root.

Sickness prevailed more in the tropics than in low latitudes. I attributed it to change of temperature, producing diarrhœa and fever.

Necessary conditions to secure health: 1. ventilation; 2. cleanliness; 3. a hospital, in which infectious or contagious diseases could be separately treated.

The diet should be a secondary consideration, and the surgeon ought to have the means at his disposal for varying it to a certain extent.

Captain Simmons, of "Calliope," to Mauritius. I left Calcutta in July.

The party of coolies were apparently in good health; did not lose any people going to sea.

Sickness commenced about a week or ten days after leaving the river.

I considered the sickness originated from sea-sickness and worms, because I saw several actually throw up worms from their stomachs when they were sea sick; it seemed to me that after being sick for several days, without taking any food, the worms brought on irritation of the stomach and intestines, ending in inflammation or diarrhœa.

I also noticed that the mauskolie dholl disagreed with them; it did not digest, but produced looseness. The urhur dholl had not that effect, and the patient soon recovered when fed upon it alone. Found the sick improve greatly upon flour gruel, and the young children also benefited by it.

The amount of sago furnished for the sick was soon exhausted, and the flour gruel was substituted for it with an excellent effect.

The tamarinds were also prejudicial, in consequence of the parents who received full allowance giving their children what they did not consume themselves.

Until I put a stop to the issue of tamarind, several children died.

The biscuit diet on the contrary brought the people round, and I gave them an extra allowance.

Our water was filled off Calcutta, and was very sweet and good.

The people who slept under the ventilators suffered very much from them, and I had to remove the people from immediately beneath them, because they suffered from cramps; after stopping the mauskolie dholl and the tamarinds, the people recovered rapidly, and all arrived at Port Louis in perfect health.

We lost 9 adults, 10 children, and — infants.

When we arrived the doctor did not examine the people or ship; the pratique boat came alongside, and the medical officer questioned me from the boat.

When we arrived at Flat Island, the surgeon in charge came on board and personally examined the ship and coolies, as they were on the berths; he pronounced the ship free from contagious disease, and that no evidence existed of contagious disease having prevailed on board.

I consider the platforms admirable, and very conducive to health; there were only three cases of sickness throughout the voyage amongst those berthed upon them.

My

My crew suffered from exposure to the S. W. monsoon.

Our cargo was rice, but I could not perceive any unpleasant smell from the hold. We turned out our cargo in thoroughly good order.

We used chloride of zinc for fumigation.

I consider an hospital on deck very desirable; and great care on the part of the captain and officers that slight cases of sickness are attended to.

Dr. ROBERT DUNDAS STEVENSON, Surgeon of the "Sir George Seymour," for Trinidad.

The party appeared to be in good condition when it embarked; none objected to on account of sickness, but two on the score of old age, who were rejected.

We left in December; does not know whether the water was procured from the river or tanks. I did not test it; it seemed to the taste fresh enough.

During our passage to sea we had two fatal cases of cholera.

The people had a biscuit and rice diet; they did not complain of their diet.

I do not think the biscuit agreed with them, because they did not digest it; many of them did not eat it.

I observed those who did eat their biscuit were most subject to dysentery.

I did not observe that the maskolie dholl disagreed with them.

We had chloride of lime, baskets of charcoal, and the decks kept very clean.

The people were washed once a week, and their clothes also.

The principal form of disease was dysentery of the acute kind.

The disease prevailed most after a hurricane we suffered from near the Isle of France; the decks were constantly wet for some days.

The cargo consisted of rice.

The 'tween decks remained cool, and there was no unpleasant effluvia from it, the cargo.

I consider the platforms a very good arrangement; the people have more room, and it does not impede the ventilation at all.

Two gentlemen came on board at Port of Spain, and examined the coolies and ship; that is to say, they looked over the people generally, not individually, and went round the decks, expressing their satisfaction as to the condition of the vessel.

The sickness was not confined to sex or age; men, women, and children suffered in about equal proportions; the infants in arms suffered very much from cold when off the Cape; we lost many infants at that time.

During wet rainy weather, when the coolies could not be brought on deck, the disease became more severe.

I consider the simple diet of rice and dholl better suited to them than an admixture of biscuit.

After rounding the Cape of Good Hope, and the weather became warmer, sickness diminished. We had no sickness on board when we arrived at Trinidad.

Mr. J. FROST, owner of the "Blue Jacket," stated that he had carried coolies from Madras to the West Indies, and lost only two out of 473½ adults. There was a large proportion of women and children on board. The two fatal cases occurred in old men. He had a surgeon on board accustomed to natives, who understood their language, and was able to manage them. He carried a rice cargo which had been four months on board before he sailed. He considers that the cargo should be ventilated as well as the main deck; when sickness arises from, or is in any way due to cargo, he attributes it to absence of ventilation.

So also is sickness not caused or influenced by cargo. The coolies should constantly be on the upper deck, cleanliness should be strictly enforced, and the water-closets should be outside, not inside the deck. To the neglect of these three essentials, he attributes most of the sickness that occasionally occurs. Of the three, by no means the least important, is the position of the privies; much sickness is caused by their being inside, from the great difficulty of keeping them perfectly clean.

With respect to diet he would not give pumpkins, and would diminish the amount of dholl. He does not approve the biscuit ration, unless it is well soaked.

He would confine them chiefly to rice.

Does not believe that cargo will affect health if the hold is well ventilated, but this is essential.

He once took 675 coolies to the Mauritius, and lost 16 adults. Cholera broke out three days after leaving Madras, and he lost six in one night. He got rid of the cholera by throwing the pumpkins over-board, stopping the dholl, and feeding the people on chura for a couple of days. He also placed the privies outside the ship.

Does not like the new platforms; thinks they tend to harbour dirt, and to interfere with free ventilation.

Is of opinion that the greatest care should be taken regarding the water shipped in this river; believes it to be the cause of much sickness.

Does not consider the Madras cooly to be physically a stronger man than the Bengali emigrants, but is of opinion that the chief cause of the superior healthiness of Madras is due to ships putting to sea at once.

Diet, ventilation, cleanliness, and the position of the privies, are the essentials for securing the health of the coolies.

Appendix, No. 4.

The accompanying written memorandum on the subject of the ventilation of emigrant ships, and of the influence of a grain cargo on health, was furnished to Mr. Caird by Captain White, the commander of the steamer "Fiery Cross," running from Calcutta to China and back.

It has so direct a practical bearing upon one of the chief points embraced in the present inquiry, that it is published as a portion of the information obtained, which is deserving of being placed on permanent record.

Ventilation.

Good ventilation should, in my opinion, be the primary object, and attention should be paid more to having high 'tween decks, large hatches, and tubes with large bell-mouth shaped, hooded covers, capable of being turned to windward or to leeward, as the weather and requirements may admit; the tubes to be at least 18 inches diameter, and placed as follows: one on each side the forecastle, one on each side the main deck, and one on each side the poop leading down to the 'tween decks, than to having scuttles at the side; for I consider it a much preferable mode, as scuttles are very frequently closed from bad weather, and generally so all night when the weather is at all squally; moreover, they do not allow the heated and noxious air to escape as ventilators do.

A ridge spar and tarpaulin, or double awning, should always be fitted over each hatch to enable them to be kept open in heavy rains or moderate gales. Small ventilators in the covering board, as used in American ships for airing their timber, are useful, allowing any gas from bilge water to escape.

Grain as cargo.

I do not consider that any gas of a deleterious nature exudes from rice, gram, or wheat when shipped dry, properly stowed, and no portion gets into the bilge, but when once wet, grain of every kind gives off a most noxious gas, perfectly poisonous to human life. Gram and rice are particularly bad in this respect.

An instance of the poisonous nature of this gas occurred on board the "Fiery Cross"; that vessel, as usual in all iron steamers, has a small compartment in the bow, the two upper decks of which are occupied by the crew. On a previous voyage, the butler had smuggled on board a few bags of gram for sale, and for secrecy had placed them in the lower part of this place; a portion of the gram had got loose, mixed with the water in the bottom, and there lay for probably a month. On our return to Calcutta, this compartment was, as usual, cleaned; an officer went down to look at the place, and see what was required, and a lascar was left to bale out the water that the pump would not draw; he did this for some time, but, on finding for a short time (say 10 minutes or so), no water being filled in the bucket, the serang went down (thinking the man had fallen asleep) to rouse him; he not immediately returning, the second officer went down, but finding himself getting giddy, fortunately came up, but on reaching the deck fell exhausted.

Means were immediately taken to get the two men up, but it was found the first man was quite dead, and the serang only recovered after more than an hour's constant attention at the hands of the medical man.

The gram which caused this did not probably amount to more than a gallon or two, and the water in which it lay not perhaps to more than 60 or 70 gallons. No bad air was felt by the officer on his first going down, nor apparently by the man who died, for some time after his first disturbing the water, as he had filled and sent up several buckets, but no doubt on his gradually disturbing the thick decomposed vegetable matter at the bottom, it gave out the bilge gas which suffocated him.

It is a well known fact among seamen, that a ship moderately leaky in her bottom is always more healthy than a perfectly tight ship, as her bilge water is then kept sweet, which is never the case in a tight ship, unless water be poured down daily and pumped out again.

Sea water in the bilge gives out a noxious gas when mixed with fresh water, hence care should be taken to pump out quite dry after filling tanks, water casks, &c., to prevent this as much as possible.

Sir Wm. Burnett's Disinfecting Fluid is an excellent deodorant, and should always be supplied.

J. B. White,
Commander of the Steamship "Fiery Cross."

5th March 1858.

(No. 1365.)

(General.)

From the Junior Secretary to the Government of *Bengal* to Dr. *F. J. Mouat,* Inspector of Gaols and Government Dispensaries; dated Fort William, the 31st October 1857.

Sir,

I AM directed to forward to you a copy of the correspondence noted in the margin,* and to request that you will have the goodness to prepare a form of certificate for emigration ships, containing such particulars as it may appear to you desirable to have specified, in consideration of the circumstances which have come under your notice in the inquiry on which you are at present engaged.

* From Officiating Protector of Emigrants, No. 10, dated 15th Oct. 1857. To Emigration Agent, No. 1301, dated 21st Oct. 1857. From ditto, No. 7, dated 26th ditto.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. T. Buckland,*
Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

(No. 10.)

From the Officer in Charge of the Master Attendant's Office for Protector of Emigants to *A. R. Young*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of *Bengal*.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit for consideration the following circumstances.

2d. Emigrant vessels, after landing their freight at Port Louis, are permitted to return to Calcutta without any certificate or official notice of their voyage having reference to the condition of the people or the casualties; documents of this nature are forwarded after an indefinite interval, and not unfrequently are the cause of some embarrassment to this office Vessels having been re-chartered to return to Mauritius with coolies whose official returns show a large mortality, evidently the result of want of careful attention on the part of those in authority on board of them; it would be very desirable if this document could be transmitted by the vessel it had reference to.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thomas Hill*,
For Protector of Emigrants.

Protector's Office, Fort William,
15 October 1857.

(No. 1301.)

(General.)

From the Junior Secretary to the Government of *Bengal* to the Emigration Agent; dated Fort William, the 21st October 1857.

Sir,

I AM directed to forward to you copy of a letter from Captain T. Hill, in charge of the Office of Protector of Emigrants, No. 10, dated the 15th instant, and to request that you will be so good as to favour the Lieutenant Governor with a report on the subject therein referred to.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. T. Buckland*,
Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

(No. 7.)

From the Emigration Agent to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Sir,

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 21st instant, with its enclosure, and in reply would beg leave to suggest, for the consideration of his Honor the Lieutenant Governor, that Dr. Mouat be requested to draw up a form (applicable to all the colonies to which emigration is now going on), and which would embrace all the particulars required by Mr. Hill's letter, and any other necessary information which might occur to Dr. Mouat.

The authorities in the Mauritius and West India Colonies respectively, should be desired to fill up and forward this document to the protector here, within one week after the vessel's arrival at the port of debarkation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Caird*,
Emigration Agent.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
26 October 1857.

(True copy).

(signed) C. T. Buckland,
Junior Secretary to the
Government of Bengal.

General Register of Emigrants embarked on the Ship for Mauritius, [or the West Indies.]

Ship Number.	Name.	Age.	Father's Name and Occupation.	Sex.	Village.	Pergunnah.	Zillah.	State of Health on Embarkation.	State of Health on Arrival at Destination.	Remarks.

This register to be kept by the commander of the ship, and the last column to be filled in

Appendix, No. 4.

in on arrival at the port of debarkation. On the last sheet of the return should be contained a brief narration of the voyage as regards the following particulars:—

1. General state of weather on the passage.

2. The number of days in which the emigrants were kept below, and on dry food, on account of bad weather.

3. The latitudes in which the storms occurred.

4. General state of emigrants during the voyage.

5. Complaints preferred, if any, and measures taken in consequence.

6. General conduct of the coolies during the passage.

7. Any remarks the commander may wish to place on record regarding the food, clothing, cleanliness, ventilation, and presumed causes of sickness and mortality, should any have occurred.

SURGEON'S GENERAL REGISTER OF SICK.

Date. Latitude. Longitude.

Ship Number.	Sex.	Disease.	General Treatment.	Result.

Each day should have a separate page, or more if necessary. The latitude and longitude to be entered from the observation at noon.

The record of general treatment to be of the briefest description, *e. g.*:

Ship Number.	Sex.	Diseases.	General Treatment.	Result.
195 - - -	Male -	Chronic dysentery	Acet. Pb. c. Op. -	Improvement.

Should death occur, the time of decease should be mentioned—as, died at three p. m.

SURGEON'S MORTALITY REGISTER.

Ship Number.	Age.	Sex.	Disease.	Date of Decease.	Remarks.

This table needs no explanation. The column of remarks should note cause of death, if there were anything peculiar in it, *e. g.*, cholera, collapse, or secondary fever, or urœmic coma, &c. At the end of the register should be a brief history of the result of the voyage as regards the following particulars:

1. State of health of emigrants at time of embarkation.

2. Food.

3. Ventilation.

4. Means of purification of deck and persons of emigrants during the voyage.

5. Privies.

6. Complaints

6. Complaints made, and attention paid to them by commander.

7. Diseases during the voyage.

8. Their general cause, type, character, and termination.

9. State of the immigrants on arrival at their destination immediately prior to landing.

This return should be handed to the health officer on his boarding the ship, together with the surgeon's general register of sick, and be countersigned by the latter, with such remarks as he may consider necessary after comparing the mortality with the general register, and seeing the state of the immigrants at the local depôt.

The document, when thus examined and countersigned, to be made over to the proper authorities for immediate transmission to Calcutta.

Sub-Enclosure 2.

From Dr. *F. J. Mouat*, Inspector of Gaols, Lower Provinces, to *A. R. Young*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal.—(No. 907, dated the 31st July 1858.)

Sir,

PRIOR to the receipt of your letter, No. 1391, dated the 29th instant, with its enclosures, from the Government of India and the Honorable Court of Directors, relative to the last voyage of the "Wellesley" to Trinidad, I had submitted my report of the general inquiry into the coolie emigrant mortality of 1856-57, entrusted to me by Mr. Buckland's letter, No. 1,277, dated the 15th October 1857.

2. I have now the honour to remark on the new matter connected with the more recent voyage of the ship "Wellesley," with emigrants from this port.

3. It is satisfactory to find that the conclusions at which I had already arrived, are corroborated by the fresh facts contained in the correspondence under acknowledgment.

4. The "Wellesley" left Calcutta on the 12th of November 1857, nearly a month after the commencement of the inquiry into the great mortality among the coolie emigrants of 1856-57. I was present at the examination of a portion of the emigrants embarked in her, and I witnessed their embarkation after selection.

I am therefore in a position to declare, from personal knowledge, that nothing could exceed the care and attention with which the examination and selection were conducted, in order that none but fit subjects should be taken.

Yet, in spite of all this care and caution, the result of the voyage has been unsatisfactory, clearly proving the issue to be due to other causes than the despatch of unsound or diseased labourers from Bengal.

5. There was no unusual sickness or mortality at the Bhowanipore depôt at the time of departure of the "Wellesley" from Calcutta in November 1857.

The previous rainy season had caused considerable sickness and mortality among the rural population of the Behar and Chotá Nagpore districts, chiefly from the dearness and scarcity of food, and, in part, from the extraordinary height of the inundations.

This most probably affected, to some extent unfavourably, the general health of the coolie class.

Many were driven from their homes by distress, and were desirous to migrate to better their condition.

I remarked, at the time, that several of those rejected had evidently suffered from want of food. None such were passed.

6. It is to be regretted that Mr. Chennell, who is a careful and capable officer, did not send a special list of the fatal cases, with a record of the diseases from which they died, and such other particulars connected with them as would have thrown light upon the exact causes of the deterioration of health of many of the party embarked.

7. From the list submitted, it appears that of the adult males embarked, eight or 4·62 per per cent. died; and of the females, six, or in the proportion of 4·44 succumbed.

This is a large proportion from selected lives, but, in the entire absence of all particulars, it is impossible to determine the real causes of the mortality.

During the same year, the mortality among the Hindu population of Calcutta has been estimated at 4·83 per cent., and that of the Mussulmans at 3·99.

8. Of the male children there died three, or 6·31 per cent., and of the female children none—a somewhat singular circumstance, regarding which no information is afforded in the scanty and insufficient returns submitted.

9. The great destruction was among the infants, of whom 13 out of 39, or the proportion of 44·83 per cent., perished.

This, however, great as it is, is not much in excess of the ordinary risks of life among infants on shore.

Appendix. No. 4.

From tables published in England some years since, the ordinary mortality among infants of all classes under one year of age, ranges from nearly 22 per cent. in England and Wales, to 36 per cent. in some parts of Italy.

In Philadelphia, about 86 per cent. of the whole mortality occurs among children under five years of age.

10. The children of the poor suffer more than those of other classes, to such an exten, that I believe I am not over-stating the fact, when I mention that not one-half of the children born into the world among the labouring classes survive the first period of dentition.

11. The risks to infants whose natural supply of food fails is much greater even than the above, as the published records of foundling hospitals show. Of 14,934 children received into the London Foundling Hospital some years since, but 4,400 attained the age of puberty.

12. When these appalling facts became known, chiefly through the exertions of a benevolent French ecclesiastic, the plan of farming out foundlings to nurse, instead of bringing them up by hand, was resorted to, with an amount of success that proved imperfect and improper nutrition to be the chief cause of the wholesale destruction of the little stray waifs of society.

13. A very few years since, one of the most eminent obstetric practitioners in London stated that, after much careful inquiry and investigation, he ascertained that seven out of every eight infants dry-nursed, or brought up by hand in London perished; and this happened whether the child had never taken the breast at all, or had been weaned after being suckled for three or four weeks only.

14. When the secretion of milk in the mother is arrested by violent sea-sickness, or other similar causes, and this is followed by a diet unsuited to nursing, the secretion is scarcely ever restored.

15. When to this again is added the fact, that no suitable diet of any kind is provided for infants or very young children in coolie emigrant vessels, it is more surprising that any survive, than that the mortality among them should range between 20 and 90 per cent., as it did in the ships of the season 1856–57.

16. I therefore entirely concur in the recommendation that proper food should be furnished for nursing mothers, and for very young children whom it may be necessary to bring up by hand.

17. I am informed by Staff Surgeons Pilleau and Macgrigor, of Her Majesty's service, that, by a scale fixed a few years since, all soldiers' wives with infants at the breast, in transports, are allowed a pint of milk daily, and that all children under two years of age who have been weaned, and all infants dry nursed, are allowed half a pint of preserved milk on each day. In addition to this, an extra supply of soups and preserved meats, with or without vegetables, is furnished for children above four years of age, and the surgeon is allowed to furnish as much sago, arrow-root, and similar articles of diet, from his store of medical comforts, as he considers necessary.

18. I am indebted to Dr. Chevers, secretary to the Director General of the Medical Department, for a copy of General Order of the Governor General in the Military Department, No. 1437, dated the 20th November 1856, containing a revised scale of victualling for sickly men, women, and children, in the voyage from India to England.

19. For children of six, nine, and ten years of age, a scale of beef, flour, suet, and other articles, is laid down, which it is not necessary to detail here, as they are inapplicable to native children.

20. In addition to this, the General Order contains the following provisions:—

"Every child between the age of two and six years, should, three times a week, be allowed in addition to the rations of butter, bread, and preserved potatoes, laid down for a child of six; but, in lieu of the one-third of the common ration, from three to five ounces of fresh meat, or of meat preserved in lard. On the alternate days these children should receive one ounce of raisins, three ounces of flour, and half a pint of preserved milk, in addition to the allowance of butter, bread, and preserved potatoes.

"Mothers of all children under two years of age, are to receive three times weekly in lieu of their own ration of salted beef or pork, twelve ounces of fresh meat, and daily in lieu of their allowance of biscuit, ten ounces of bread, and three ounces of roasted flour or soojee, and one pint of preserved milk.

"In cases of children of two years of age, who may have unfortunately lost their mother, the diet must be left mainly to the discretion of the medical officer, according to the varying conditions of their health."

21. I mention these matters to show that the necessity for making special provision in the case of European mothers and children has been felt and acted on.

22. The same necessity is equally, if not more, imperative as respects native mothers, and the children of coolie emigrants.

23. For

23. For the children of European emigrants a scale is given in the correspondence under acknowledgment. Appendix, No. 4.

24. The urgency and expediency of making provision for the women and children of coolie emigrants being conceded, I presume it is intended that I should suggest a scale, and thus take the initiative in the matter.

25. In addition to the ordinary rations shipped, I recommend that for every native mother with a child at the breast, a pint of preserved milk be allowed daily, over and above her ordinary scale of diet; and for every child under two years of age who has no mother, or whose mother is unable to nurse it, a daily ration of a pint of preserved milk.

26. In excess of the above, a stock of soojee, oatmeal, sago and arrowroot, should be added to the medical comforts, equivalent to a consumption of six chittacks daily, for every child between two and six years of age, with a proportionate increase of sugar—the whole to be issued entirely at the discretion of the surgeon, as in the case of the orphans of European soldiers. The quantity of water at present allowed is, I think, sufficient.

27. I have already suggested that the biscuit ration should be discontinued, and choora or chubenee be shipped in its stead, in the proportion allowed at Madras.

28. In the tabular statement forming Enclosure No. 1 of the report of the Emigration Commissioners to Mr. Merivale, dated 14th April 1858, I find some difference in the number of deaths, as compared with the lists in the documents submitted to me.

29. The table at page 25 of my report of the 10th May 1858, was constructed from the data contained in the correspondence originally forwarded.

I have, however, corrected the table in manuscript, as the last is probably the most accurate statement.

It alters the mean mortality very little, and does not in any way affect the general argument or the conclusions arrived at.

Sub-Enclosure 3.

(No. 2146.)

From *C. Beadon*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, to *A. R. Young*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the President in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the Nos. and dates noted on the margin, forwarding copies of two reports by Dr. Mouat, who was appointed by the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor to conduct the inquiry suggested by the Honourable the Court of Directors into the causes of the great mortality which occurred in emigrant ships, on their passage from Calcutta to the West Indies, during the season 1856–57.

Home Department, No. 1526, dated 17th August 1858. No. 1537, dated 17th August 1858.

2. Dr. Mouat's inquiries were directed chiefly to the following points:

1st. The state of the people when they were embarked.

2d. The measures that are taken in Calcutta to ascertain that the emigrants selected are sound, healthy, and fit to undergo the risks of a long voyage.

3d. The present mode of fitting up ships for coolies.

4th. The recent alterations in the dieting of emigrants.

5th. The effects of detention in the River Hooghly after the people are on board.

6th. The reason of the healthiness of the Madras coolies embarked at the same season, and subject to the same regulations.

3. The general conclusions at which Dr. Mouat has arrived on these several points, are as follows:

1st. That the evidence as to the state in which the emigrants referred to were embarked in Calcutta, tends to disprove the assertion of some commanders and surgeons, and the strong suspicion of the colonial authorities, that the great sickness and mortality were due principally to the primary selection of sickly and unfit subjects in Bengal.

2d. That the general and medical arrangements of the depôt at Bhowanipore are such as to afford every reasonable precaution against the embarkation of persons unfit to undergo the risks of a voyage to the West Indies.

3d. That the lamentable sickness and mortality under investigation were caused by the increased proportion of women and children, by the neglect of proper sanitary precautions on board most of the vessels, by the shipment of water of the River Hooghly when it was unwholesome, by the absence of the means of separating the healthy and the sick, by the change in the diet of the emigrants, by the absolute want of suitable food for young children and infants, by the presence of grain cargoes, by the probable foul state of bilge, and

Appendix, No. 4.

in some instances, by the inexperience of the medical officers, in others, by their being unable to communicate with the emigrants, and being unaccustomed to the treatment of the diseases of natives of India.

4th. That the causes above enumerated operated in very various degrees, but that there is no evidence to show how far they were exceptional.

5th. That the cause of the superior healthiness of Madras emigrants seems to be chiefly due to their being an entirely different race to Bengalees, and better suited to a sea life. The open roadstead of Madras, the absence of the voyage down the Hooghly, and the greater purity of the water laid in, with more suitable diet, may also exercise some influence in producing a favourable result.

4. The remedies Dr. Mouat suggests, are—

1st. The removal of platforms, and the restoration of the old flush deck.

2d. A separate sick bay, and the further means, when very great sickness prevails, of placing persons, suffering from contagious diseases, on deck.

3d. The adoption of the Madras diet scale,* with the exception noted in para. 164 of the Report, and the laying in of suitable food for young children and infants.

4th. The diminution in the proportion of women and children to 25 per cent. If possible, it is desirable not to embark pregnant females, or those who are nursing infants at the breast.

5th. The absolute prohibition of the water of the Hooghly being pumped in alongside off Calcutta from the 1st of November to the 15th of June.

6th. The improvement of the ventilation of the hold and between decks in the manner suggested.

7th. The purification of and attention to the bilge of the vessel. A supply of Sir William Burnett's disinfecting fluid should be carried by every vessel.

8th. It being compulsory on a certain proportion of the emigrants, at least a third, remaining on deck, whenever it is pacticable.

9th. The proportion of topazes being increased to one per cent. of the whole number embarked, children counting as units.

10th. The selection of medical officers with some knowledge of the treatment of the diseases of natives of India, and of such only as are capable of understanding the coolies. Young surgeons fresh from Europe, and youths who have just completed their professional education should not be employed in this duty.

11th. An improved system of records, which it should be incumbent on commanders and surgeons to keep, and on colonial emigration authorities to transmit to Calcutta without delay.

12th. The

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* "The quantity of provisions allowed to each emigrant, shall not be less than the following, two children under the age of 10 years being considered as equal to one person only:

"*Each Emigrant per Day.*

"Rice	oz. 20	Turmeric	oz. ½
Dhall	„ 4	Onion	„ 2
Ghee	„ 1	Tobacco	„ 1
Salt	„ 1	Chillies	„ ½
Tamarind	oz. 2	Black pepper	dr. 1½
Salt fish	„ 2	Mustard seeds	„ ½
Firewood	lb. 2	Garlic	„ ½
Gingely oil	oz. ½	Corriander seeds	„ 2.
		Water	1 Gallon.

"*Fresh Provisions.*—Sheep and goats equal to one day's supply, during every week of the voyage. Yams and potatoes may, in a certain proportion, be supplied as a substitute for pumpkins, and as vegetables must be served out twice a week, equal to a quarter of a lb. per man, the whole quantity must accordingly be provided.

"Six sheep or goats to be supplied per every 100 men for the voyage.

"Dry provisions for bad weather when the usual provisions cannot be cooked.

"*Each Emigrant per Day.*

"Choorah or aval	1 seer or 2 lbs.
or biscuits	½ „ or 1 lb.
Bhoot gram or Cuddeley	¼ „ or ½ „
Sugar	1 chuttack, or 2 oz.

* "Eighteen days' stock of the above dry provisions to be laid in for the voyage.

"*Water.*—The water laid in should be of the purest description that can be obtained, and great attention should be paid to the sweetness and sufficient strength of the casks in which it is carried, and if new, they should be charred.

"The casks should be constructed of staves of at least one inch in thickness for the ground tier, and of not less than three quarters of an inch for the upper tier."

The only exception Dr. Mouat proposes to the Madras diet scale, is as regards natives of Behar and Goruckpore, for whom a supply of flour, he suggests, should be laid in to make the chupatties or unleavened cakes, which is their customary diet. For them Dr. Mouat would substitute eight ounces of flour for 12 ounces of rice, leaving the rest of the diet as it is in the scale mentioned. This would give them one meal of farinaceous food daily.

12th. The increase of the amount of solid opium to double the present quantity.

13th. The placing of the privies securely in the forechains outside the vessel.

5. Dr. Mouat also states that it is deserving of consideration whether it would not be desirable to employ a different class of vessels for the conveyance of emigrants. The experience of the past year, he says, has shown the incalculable advantages of large and powerful screw steamers in the transport of troops, and similar advantages would, in his belief, result from the use of such vessels in the transport of coolies. They could always put to sea in one day, and the rapidity of the voyage would much diminish its risks. Whether it would pay, as a commercial speculation, is a question which Dr. Mouat is unable to determine.

6. Dr. Mouat further states that he is distinctly of opinion that the great sickness and mortality of 1856–57 need not recur; that whether exceptional or not, they can be prevented by proper care and attention; and that there is no need to prohibit the continuance of emigration on grounds either of humanity or of policy; and he suggests that the penalties for neglect of proper sanitary arrangements on board should be more stringent than they are, and that the examination of the condition of both ships and emigrants should be more minute and searching at the ports of debarkation than they appear to be at present.

7. A further report from Dr. Mouat in regard to the mortality on one vessel (the "Wellesley," which recently left Calcutta with emigrants for the West Indies, is submitted with your letter, No. 1537, dated the 17th August 1858. Dr. Mouat considers that the conclusions at which he arrived before this case came under his notice are corroborated. As the deaths on this vessel were principally among children, he suggests the following measure in addition to those already proposed:

"In addition to the ordinary rations shipped, I recommend that for every native mother with a child at the breast, a pint of preserved milk be allowed daily, over and above her ordinary scale of diet; and for every child under two years of age who has no mother, or whose mother is unable to nurse it, a daily ration of a pint of preserved milk.

"In excess of the above, a stock of soojee, oatmeal, sago, and arrowroot should be added to the medical comforts, equivalent to a consumption of six chittacks daily for every child between two and six years of age, with a proportionate increase of sugar, the whole to be issued entirely at the discretion of the surgeon, as in the case of the orphans of European soldiers. The quantity of water at present allowed is, I think, sufficient.

"I have already suggested that the biscuit ration should be discontinued, and choora or chabani be shipped in its stead, in the proportion allowed at Madras."

8. The Honourable the President in Council entirely concurs in Dr. Mouat's conclusions, that the sickness and mortality on board these emigrant ships were not owing to any defects of arrangement at Calcutta, but that they may be attributed to many other causes, all connected with the treatment of the emigrants after embarkation, and with the condition of the vessels on which they were embarked.

9. In regard to Dr. Mouat's recommendations for the future, I am directed to request that they may all be carried out as soon and as far as practicable, with the exception of the fourth, proposing a reduction of the proportion of women in each vessel, to which arrangement his Honour in Council cannot consent. The prohibition of the use of the water of the Hooghly River between the 1st November and the 15th June should above all be most rigidly enforced.

10. The Lieutenant Governor will be so good as to cause to be prepared, for the guidance of all concerned in the emigration of native labourers to the Colonies, a revised and consolidated set of rules, including those prescribed by law, as well as those to be passed by the Governor General in Council under the provisions of section 6, Act No. XV. of 1842, section 7, Act No. XXI. of 1844, and section 7, Act No. XXXI. of 1855, based on the orders which have from time to time been given on the subject, and embodying the modifications now sanctioned in respect to emigration to the West Indies. These rules when approved by his Honour should be submitted for the sanction of the Government of India according to law, and will then form a convenient and authentic manual for future reference.

11. The President in Council desires me, in conclusion, to observe that Dr. Mouat's inquiry has been very carefully conducted, and to request that the thanks of the Government of India may be communicated to him for his able reports. These may be distributed, as proposed, among the officers connected with the Emigration Department, and others who are interested in the inquiry. You will have the goodness, with the permission of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, to furnish six copies of each of the two Reports, for the use of this office, and for transmission to the Honourable the Court of Directors.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Cecil Beadon*,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Council Chamber,
23 September 1858.

Appendix, No. 4.

Enclosure 2 in Appendix No. 4.

Sir, East India House, 1 January 1859.

In continuation of my letter, dated 9th ultimo, forwarding Dr. Mouat's Report on the mortality on board emigrant ships from Calcutta to the West Indies, I now forward to you, by direction of the Secretary of State for India in Council, a copy of a further letter from Dr. Mouat, in connexion with the same subject.

I have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq., C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *J. Cosmo Melvill.*

Sub-Enclosure.

From *F. J. Mouat*, Esq., M.D., Inspector of Gaols, L. P., to *A. R. Young*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal. (No. 1196, dated the 20th August 1858.)

Sir,

In continuation of my letter, No. 907, dated 31st July last, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government, the extract, noted in the margin,* from a letter addressed to me by the owner of the ship "Blue Jacket," which has just returned from a voyage to the Mauritius.

2. I transmit the communication, because it has a direct bearing on some of the points connected with the great mortality of coolies on the voyage to the West Indies in 1856-57.

3. A detention of 12 days in the River Hooghly in the month of May, is about the severest test of salubrity to which an emigrant ship could be subjected. That she should have safely endured so trying an ordeal, is sufficient proof that the internal arrangements of the vessel are good and deserving of imitation, as recommended in my report of the 10th of May last.

4. I take this opportunity of correcting an error which I made in regard to the mode in which the hold of the "Blue Jacket" is ventilated. It appears that the large ventilators are not connected with the hold, as I supposed, that the aëration of the cargo is accomplished by keeping the hatches open all day.

5. The result is the same as regards the cargo, but is not so desirable as respects the coolies. I prefer, therefore, the plan suggested in my report to that actually in use in the "Blue Jacket."

6. If it can be avoided, the gaseous products arising from chemical changes in grain or other vegetable cargoes, should never be inhaled in any state of dilution by the coolies.

7. In so well-ventilated and lofty a vessel as the "Blue Jacket," it would not seem to have produced any ill effects.

8. In vessels otherwise constructed, it would certainly be as injurious as it proved in the "Wellesley;" and even in the "Blue Jacket," it would have caused disease had bad weather or any similar circumstances rendered it necessary to close any of the ventilators, and to prevent the free egress of the deleterious gases.

(True copy.)

(signed) *Thomas Jones,*
Register, Bengal Secretariat.

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* Having just returned from Mauritius in the ship "Blue Jacket," having left Calcutta in May last with the largest batch of coolies ever shipped here, viz., 450 adults (although a very small number for the ship, she being 1,557 tons register), I beg to state, although detained in the river 12 days before we discharged our pilot, we only lost through disease six adults on the passage. One man must have fallen overboard in the night, as he was not to be found in the morning, making our mortality altogether seven, the least per-centage of any ship that has yet taken them down at that season of the year; I had them on board the ship 44 days. I can only attribute the successful result in having no fittings in the tween decks to stop ventilation, and also to my adopting the same principle of feeding them as I expressed to you before; also the water-closets for the men being outside the ship.—*James J. Frost* jun.

Enclosure 3, in Appendix, No. 4.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 April 1859.

I AM directed by Sir E. B. Lytton to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 9th December and 1st January last, forwarding a Report and other documents from Dr. Mouat, showing the results of the inquiries made at Calcutta into the large mortality on board the emigrant ships which proceeded from that port to the West Indies in the season of 1856-57.

I am to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for India in Council, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject; and I am to request that you will state to his Lordship that Sir E. B. Lytton concurs in his opinion that the Indian Government were right in refusing to sanction the proposal to reduce the proportion of women to accompany the male emigrants, and that he also concurs in approving, with the above exception, the adoption by the Indian Government of Dr. Mouat's suggestions generally. 1 April 1859.

Instructions will be sent out to the Governors of the West Indian Colonies to act in accordance with the suggestions made by the Emigration Commissioners in their letter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Carnarvon.*

J. Cosmo Melvill, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 4, in Appendix, No. 4.

Sir, Emigration Office, 1 April 1859.

WE have the honour to state that we have carefully considered the reports from Dr. Mouat, which, with their appendices, were communicated to us in your letters of the 23d December and 14th January; but as it appeared that no practical step was required in this country till the period of engaging shipping for the season of 1859-60, while in India every precaution which could properly be adopted for the benefit of the emigrants had been at once prescribed by the Government, it seemed to us that any detailed report on the subject from this Board would be most usefully furnished after we had learnt the results of this year's emigration, and especially had received the report of the Immigration Agent at Trinidad on the exceptionally large mortality of the "Hanover."

2. In the ships which have already reached the West Indies from Calcutta the mortality (including that in the "Hanover") has been 10·5 per cent., while the mortality in the Calcutta emigration of 1857-58 was 13·1; and in that of 1856-57 was 17·26 per cent. These results afford reason for hoping that the cause which has led to this loss of life, whatever it may be, is wearing itself out.

3. The emigration during the later months of the season was conducted subject to the recent suggestions of Dr. Mouat, and a further improvement may therefore be fairly hoped for.

4. It gives us much satisfaction to learn that the result of the inquiry has been to exculpate the officers in charge of the Government depôt at Calcutta, and that in the opinion of the authorities in India and of Lord Stanley, there is no ground for the discontinuance of the emigration. We doubt not that Sir Edward B. Lytton will concur with his Lordship in approving both the adoption by the Indian Government of Dr. Mouat's suggestions generally, and the exception made with regard to the proposed diminution of the number of women placed on board.

5. In communicating Dr. Mouat's report to the Colonial Government, it would be requisite to draw their attention to the paragraphs numbered from 204 to 212 inclusive. We would especially request that in cases where the mortality register prescribed by paragraph 207 has been kept (which may be the case in the later ships of the season), a copy of that register may be forwarded to us, with such information as may show, if possible, to what extent the rate of mortality among the people called Junglies exceeded that among other classes of coolies.

6. We take this opportunity of enclosing, for Sir E. B. Lytton's information, a copy of a letter which we have received from the Acting Emigration Agent at Calcutta, in continuation of that enclosed in our letter of December 23d, and in answer to our letter to him of 22d September, of which a copy was communicated to the Colonial Office on the same day. Sub-Enclosure.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq., C. B.
&c. &c. &c.

Appendix, No. 4.

Sub-Enclosure.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
22 November 1858.

Sir,

No. 48 of 1858.

In continuation of my letter of the 6th instant, I have now the honour to furnish you with the further information required in yours of the 22d September last.

I desire to append a few prefatory observations ere entering more immediately on the inquiries contained in your letter, by stating that the excessive mortality amongst the class of people termed "Junglies," as exhibited in the case of the "Salsette," is not confined to coolies who proceed to West Indies, but prevails also, in a diminished degree, in emigration to Mauritius; nor is it traceable to any specific cause, excepting to the more general and sudden change in the mode of life and diet on shipboard.

The popular doctrine, so frequently advanced by the surgeons and commanders of ships, attributing the mortality to the "emaciated" condition on embarking, is opposed to fact, and cannot be sustained. There are, indeed, some who desire to emigrate, in such a condition, but with very few exceptions are rejected, and only permitted to stay a few days at the depôt until their relatives embark.

In regard to the view expressed by the Commissioners, that a prolonged detention at the depôt, under medical supervision, being calculated to benefit the coolies, I beg to record my conviction that the test of experience completely disproves such a theory as far as relates o the hill people or "Junglies," who are more liable to the attacks of disease by a lengthened stay here. The primary object, therefore, suggests as speedy an embarkation as practicable after reaching the depôt.

The class who really benefit by detention are mostly those who inhabit the plains of Bengal, and scarcely undergo any climatic change or diet during their stay in the depôt.

I may adduce another and more weighty reason, though not on sanitary grounds, why a prolonged detention is undesirable and inexpedient, viz., the powerful inducement, by fraud and artifice, incessantly held out by the native agents of the Mauritius planters, to gain them over to their cause, which at times causes serious embarrassment to the agent.

As to the question of families with an undue proportion of very young children being sent, and whether it is practicable to exclude such from emigrating, I desire to remark that, during the past West India season, 21¼ per cent. of children, varying from six years to infancy, were embarked, which may be considered large in proportion to the adults; but this is unavoidable, as the rejection of any of the youthful members of a family on such grounds would involve not only the loss of the entire family, but of many older and more desirable emigrants. The measures, however, now adopted, in providing suitable diet for the particular class, will doubtless tend to diminish the mortality, and re-establish the much desired result.

Enclosed is a scale of the species of diet issued daily at the depôt, which is supplied by a contractor, and generally deemed sufficient in quantity. As to quality, and the means of ascertaining if each individual receives the prescribed allowance, the agent daily inspects musters of each article, and from personal observation at the store within the depôt, and inquiry amongst the people, satisfies himself that the full quantity is issued, and that there exists no sufficient cause for complaint on this point.

The practice of ships quitting this port minus a separate hospital, obtained ere I assumed charge of the agency. Under the new system, however, this important essential has been provided for, and a convenient space has been allotted to this purpose on the upper deck; the ship, by way of compensation, being allowed to carry 2 per cent. of adults in excess of her legal measurement.

In the matter of clothing for the sea voyage, the present quantity and species will, I submit, be found amply sufficient (with the trifling addition of a common calico cap), since measures have been taken to reserve a complete suit for each individual for issue in the cold latitudes, or as occasion may require.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

S. Walcott, Esq.,
&c. &c.

Daily Rations allowed to the Coolies in the Depôt for *West Indies* and *Mauritius.*

Rice	8 chittacks,	or 1 lb.
Dholl	1½ ditto	„ 3 oz.
Salt	½ ditto	„ 4 drachms.
Oil	½ ditto	„ 4 „
Chillies and turmeric	½ ditto	„ 4 „
Firewood	2 seers	„ 4 lb.

Earthern pots for cooking, when required.

(signed) *C. Eales,*
Officiating Emigration Agent.

Emigration Agent's Office,
Calcutta, 22 November 1858.

Appendix, No. 5.

Memorandum.

Indian immigration into the West Indies must be looked at with reference to its effect on:—

1st. The planters.
2d. The immigrants.
3d. The creole population; and
4th. The public.

First. As regards the planters, it is to be observed, that for the manufacture of sugar continuous labour is indispensable. If the cane is not cut immediately it is ripe it deteriorates, and if the sugar is not made immediately the cane is cut, it ferments and is spoilt. But it is the almost universal conclusion of those who have been resident in the West Indies that (unless under circumstances as exceptional as exist in Barbados) it is impossible to depend on the creole for this continuous labour. It is unnecessary to multiply authorities on this point. It will be sufficient to refer to the Report of a Committee of the House of Commons in 1842 as the earliest, and to a Despatch from Governor Wodehouse of 30th September 1858, as the latest authorities.

In the Report of the Committee (of which among others, the Earl of Derby, Earl Grey, and Sir J. Pakington were members), are embodied the following resolutions:

"5. That the principal causes of this diminished production, and consequent distress, are the great difficulty which has been experienced by the planters in obtaining steady and continuous labour, and the high rate of remuneration which they give for the broken and indifferent work which they are able to procure.

"6. That the diminished supply of labour is caused partly by the fact, that some of the former slaves have betaken themselves to other occupations more profitable than field labour; but the more general cause is that the labourers are enabled to live in comfort and to acquire wealth without, for the most part, labouring on the estates of the planters for more than three or four days in a week, and from five to seven hours a day, so that they have no sufficient stimulus to perform an adequate amount of work."

In the Despatch of Governor Wodehouse are enclosed reports from the stipendiary magistrates of British Guiana, in which are the following statements:

Mr. M'Swiney reports as the result of his inquiries, "That higher wages and reduced tasks offer no inducement to increased industry; that there is a general reluctance on the part of the creoles to labour, but unaccompanied by the manifestation of any other unfavourable disposition." Mr. Ware says, "On many estates the cultivation has been neglected for want of hands to receive and supply the canes after they were cut, the effect of which will tend very materially to diminish the crop of the present year. In fact this description of work has been refused to be performed by the labourers at any reasonable rate of wages, and the grass which has so rapidly grown up within the last two months, owing to the showers we have had, could not be got rid of at any price." He adds, "The system now pursued by the creole population with reference to their work is this: on Mondays, and sometimes on Tuesdays, there is a total cessation of work; on Wednesdays they go to the field, and select their work; and on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday they labour, and during these three days I have ascertained that an able-bodied labourer has made as much as a dollar a day, which is about double what he earned at a corresponding period of last year." Mr. Crosby says, "This year, on account of the greatly increased rate of wages paid for almost every kind of field labour, and the consequent independence of the non-resident creole labourers, employers have not been able, by any temptation of high wages, to obtain the labour of the non-resident creoles, upon whom they have hitherto depended to perform many of those more laborious field operations usually performed by that description of labourers; and they have, therefore, been compelled to draw off the coolies from that labour to which they have been accustomed and prefer, to perform the labour usually performed by the creole non-resident labourers. The non-resident creole labourers do no labour, and cannot be coerced to labour beyond two, or at the most three days in the week, in which time they can now easily supply more than all their limited wants and necessaries of life." And Mr. Walker, the Colonial Secretary, and Administrator of the Government in the absence of the Governor, says, "While the native peasantry are capricious in their selection of work, and not to be depended upon for continuous labour, they have been orderly and respectful in their demeanour. It should, moreover, be borne in mind that during a great part of the year plaintains, their staple food, were plentiful and cheap, and that such of them as possess grounds of their own, and pay attention to them,

Appendix, No. 5.

can readily make more by their produce than by the highest rate of wages which an estate could afford to give for ordinary labour in the field."

It was in consequence of the impossibility of depending on the creole population after the abolition of apprenticeship that the planters of Mauritius and the West Indies were compelled to seek elsewhere for a supply of labour. In Mauritius they naturally looked from the first to the overflowing population of the Indian continent. The West Indians, also, soon found all other sources of supply inefficient. Indian immigration commenced to Mauritius in 1843, and to the West Indies in 1844. The results on produce up to the present time, as shown by the sugar imported into this country, have been:—

	NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS.	SUGAR, THREE YEARS BEFORE IMMIGRATION.	SUGAR, LAST THREE YEARS.
		Cwt.	*Cwt.*
Mauritius - - -	209,490	1,939,288	4,194,757
British Guiana - -	24,946	1,550,234	2,238,532
Trinidad - - -	11,981	813,489	1,344,456

With these must be contrasted the results in Jamaica and Antigua, where there has been very little immigration:—

	THREE YEARS AFTER APPRENTICESHIP.	LAST THREE YEARS.
	Cwt.	*Cwt.*
Jamaica - - -	1,812,204	1,244,373
Antigua - - -	569,863	627,733

Second. In respect to the immigrants the effect on them is to be considered with reference to, first, the mortality on the voyage; and, second, their position and prospects in the colony.

The excessive mortality has occurred exclusively in the voyage from Calcutta; the mortality in ships from Madras having been only 1·82 per cent. But even in Calcutta ships there has been no excessive mortality till the last two years; the average to the close of 1856 having been only 4·71 per cent. In 1857 and 1858, it was no doubt very large, having been 17·34 per cent. in the former, and 13·16 in the latter year. In consequence of a suggestion from the Secretary of State, the Government of India appointed Dr. Mouat, the Inspector of Gaols in the Lower Provinces, to investigate the causes of this mortality. The conclusion to which he came was, that it need not recur; that, whether exceptional or not, it might be prevented by proper care and attention, and that there is no need to prohibit the continuation of emigration on grounds either of humanity or policy. The remedies which he suggested, consisting principally of alterations in the fittings of the ships—the change of some articles of dietary, particularly of the dietary of the children—the improvement of ventilation—an increase in the number of topazes (native sweepers) to keep the decks clean—a prohibition of the use of Hooghly water—and a selection of surgeons acquainted with the diseases of India—either have been, or will be, at once carried into effect. It is not unreasonable to expect that these alterations will again reduce the mortality to its former proportions. It must be added that Dr. Mouat distinctly exonerates the emigration officers at Calcutta from any charge of carelessness in putting the people on board in an unfit state, and he states that the occurrence of cholera and diarrhœa in the Hooghly (the prevalent diseases among the emigrants) is no proof that those attacked were in bad health at the time of embarkation; in illustration of which he instances the troopship "Thetis," which left Calcutta in the winter of 1841 with 300 troops in perfect health, and before she reached the Sand Heads, lost 26 from cholera.

The advantage to the coolie, when once he has reached Mauritius or the West Indies, admits of no doubt. In his own country his wages do not exceed 2*d.* or 3*d.* a day. He is not always able to obtain that, and in the periods of dearth, which not unfrequently occur, immense numbers die of absolute starvation. In Mauritius his wages average from 16*s.* to 17*s.* a month, and he is, besides, provided with medical attendance. In the West Indies

he

he receives wages averaging from 1*s.* to 2*s.* a day, in addition to which he is allowed a house and garden, and is provided with medical attendance; and as a large part of his labour is performed by task work, and a task can be performed by an industrious man in four or five hours, it follows that the actual wages of those who choose to work hard are far higher than the nominal wages. The result is that the return coolies carry away with them, as their savings, very large sums of money. Thus 1,520 adult males who returned to India in the seven ships mentioned in the margin deposited in the Colonial Treasury no less than 34,530*l.* = about 22*l.* 15*s.* a head, besides taking considerable sums with them.

Empress Eugenie.
Blue Jacket.
Hamilla Mitchell.
Arabia.
Eveline.
White Eagle.
Morayshire.

It has, however, been objected that the cooly, being forced to work for a certain time under indenture, is, in reality, in a state of bondage. The answer is, that before the indenture system was established the coolies abandoned their work and wandered about the country, and in many instances, in the West Indies, perished miserably from disease and want. Their condition was thus described in August 1849 by Mr. Carbery, a stipendiary magistrate in British Guiana, whose sympathies are much more with the coolie than with the planter. "With the indenture," he says, "the immigrant becomes a useful and industrious member of society, his labours alike profitable to himself and his master. Without it he too often degenerates into a wandering mendicant, a nuisance and disgrace to the colony, and finishes his career in the public hospital." In the interest, therefore, of the cooly himself, the indenture system is necessary. But it is, moreover, obvious that it would not be worth while for the planters to import coolies unless they could command from them continuous labour. The cooly is not so strong as the creole, and would require as little for his subsistence. He would, therefore, be just as accessible to the temptations to idleness if he were not under some system of coercion. In that case the planter would have incurred the heavy expense of introducing him into the Colony without the probability of deriving any substantial benefit from it. That the indenture system is not and cannot be worked oppressively and tyrannically is asserted on all hands. For, setting aside the protection which the law affords, the labour of the coolie is so valuable, and the importance of retaining him so great, that no planter who had a reasonable regard for his own interests would venture to push his legal rights to the extreme. With reference to this point Mr. Keate, in a Despatch dated 6 August 1857, says that the competition for labour in Trinidad is such as to render any attempt to secure continuous labour by punishment quite futile. And in the reports of the stipendiary magistrates before referred to, as enclosed in Governor Wodehouse's Despatch of the 30th September last, the same fact is repeatedly asserted.

In regard to the mortality in the colonies, the information, as regards the West Indies, is not complete. For Mauritius it is more complete. In that Colony the average number of coolies in the five years ending with 1856 was 118,846. The average number of deaths was 3,793, equal to 3·2 per cent. per annum. Adopting the same mode of computation, the average annual mortality in the 23 years ending with 1856 was 3·1 per annum. In British Guiana the average mortality during the four years ending with June 1858 is stated to have been 3·65. In Trinidad the Immigration Agent says, "when once acclimatised, the per centage of deaths among the Asiatic peasantry is low. It amounted during the half year terminating on 30th June 1858, on a total of 9,937 immigrants to 50. Of this mortality three-fifths occurred among the arrivals of the current year." Deducting these recent arrivals, the mortality of the half year would be only 20 out of 8,872, equal to 0·50, or half per cent. per annum. In Grenada two ships arrived, in 1857, with 645 immigrants. During the first month after arrival the mortality was large, but after the end of the first six months, it fell to the rate of only 2·6 per annum. In Jamaica the number of immigrants has been small, but the number who have "died or disappeared" in 13½ years has been 1,597 out of 2,825, or a little more than four per cent. per annum.

Third. In respect to the creole, those who come forward as his advocates allege two grievances principally; first, that strangers are introduced to compete with him in the labour market; and second, that the money to pay for introducing those strangers is taken from the public revenue, to which he contributes. The first objection, if it were worth anything, would apply to all immigration assisted out of public funds; to the Australian immigration as well as the Mauritius and West Indian. It would, indeed, be more unreasonable in the case of the sugar-growing colonies if, as is alleged, the creoles cannot be induced to work at the staple productions by any wages which the planter can afford to offer. But it may further be doubted whether the creole population themselves regard the introduction of coolies as any injury to them. They have shown no resentment or ill-will towards the coolies, which would certainly have been the case if they had regarded their introduction as an injury; and the Lieutenant-Governor of Grenada, in a report, dated 16th April last alleges the exact contrary. "It is a remarkable fact," says Mr. Kortright, "that so far from the immigrant being regarded by the native labourer with jealousy, he is rather viewed as one of the means destined to emancipate the latter from the necessity of offering his services for hire, and to enable him to become a cultivator of the soil for his own special benefit."

The grievance of being compelled to contribute towards the expense of importing the coolie is not, in fact, very great. In Mauritius the expense of importing a coolie is about 5*l.*; the amount to be contributed by the employer in the shape of a stamp duty, is 20*s.* the first year and 10*s.* every subsequent year that the coolie is under indenture. As the coolie must serve five years or pay a tax, the amount contributed by the employer or by

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the coolie, cannot be less than 3*l.* To the West Indies the expense of importation may be taken at 13*l.* In British Guiana the employer is required to pay down 50 dollars = 10*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* In Trinidad, 2*l.* a year during indenture = 10*l.* In Jamaica two-thirds of the cost, whatever it may be. In Grenada and St. Vincent, half the cost. In St. Lucia, 20*s.* for the first year and 25*s.* for subsequent years = 6*l.* The three first are the only Colonies which import large numbers of coolies, and it can scarcely be said that the share of the expense which in those colonies falls on the creole is oppressive. For it must be remembered that the excess of expense is drawn from the general revenue, the principal sources of which are import and export duties, and that the creole labouring population contribute very little to the former, and probably not at all to the latter. It is impossible to ascertain accurately what is the extent to which the creole pays for coolie emigration, but it may safely be asserted that it is extremely small. In addition to the expense of importing the coolies, there is, in the West Indian colonies, the expense of his back passage to India. But as this back passage will not become due until the immigrant has resided a second five years in the colony, it is not unfair to set against it the advantage which the Colony will have derived from his labour and expenditure during that time.

Nor is it possible to assume that this expenditure, whatever it may be, is uncompensated. If the planters cannot obtain labour which will enable them to continue sugar cultivation, they will, in the other colonies as they have done in Jamaica, abandon their estates. The land will fall out of cultivation, or be appropriated by the creole population. The whites will disappear, and with them civilisation, morality and religion; the creole would be the greatest sufferer by such a result; the greater, because he would be unconscious or careless of it. The whites would migrate elsewhere, but the creole would be tied to the soil, and could not fail to sink daily into deeper barbarism.

Those who deny the probability of such a result, point to Barbados as a colony where without immigration produce has increased, and the people have advanced. But Barbados is one of the most thickly peopled spots in the world, and the extent of its population produces the same coercion to labour continuously as is produced in the other colonies by the laws affecting immigrants. If ever the population in the other colonies should, as in Barbados, press heavily on the means of subsistence, neither immigration nor indentureship laws will be required.

Fourth. In regard to the interests of the public, it seems only necessary to point out that the British Colonies afford the single successful instance of the competition of free with slave labour in the production of tropical sugar. At the present moment the consumption of sugar in the United Kingdom amounts to about 8,750,000 cwt., and the production in the British Colonies to upwards of 4,500,000 cwt. More than half the consumption of the United Kingdom is, therefore, now produced by free labour. The increase in the production of Mauritius, British Guiana, and Trinidad since 1842, when immigration commenced, has been from 1,440,578 to 2,431,413 cwt., or 990,835 cwt., equal to more than 11 per cent. of the whole consumption of the United Kingdom. It may be confidently asserted that if immigration continues this increase will also go on, and it is scarcely visionary to believe that a time may come when the whole consumption of the United Kingdom might be produced by free labour. But if immigration is stopped production will fall off, and, as the people of England will not go without sugar, the result will be that a greater quantity will be purchased from countries where it is produced by slave labour. An active stimulus would thus be applied to slave cultivation, and consequently to the slave trade, and an effectual discouragement would be administered to those who have been striving to retrieve the ruined fortunes of the British West Indies. The ill effects would not be confined to the British colonies only; they would discourage the friends of emancipation in every country by destroying the one example to which they can now point of the possibility of the successful cultivation of tropical sugar by free labour.

T. W. C. M.

18 February 1859.

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No. 18.—BRITISH GUIANA.—1857.

[COURT OF POLICY.]

AN ORDINANCE to make certain Alterations and Amendments in the Laws relating to Immigration and Contracts of Service.

ORDINANCE enacted by his Excellency *William Walker*, Esq., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c., with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

(L.S.) *W. Walker.*

To all to whom these Presents do, may, or shall come, Greeting! be it known:—

Preamble. WHEREAS it is necessary to make certain alterations and amendments in the laws relating to immigration and contracts of service: Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, as follows:—

Contracts with minor Immigrants declared valid. 1. Every contract heretofore entered into in the presence of the Immigration Agent General, or Sub-Immigration Agent, and now in existence, and purporting to bind any minor immigrant, shall have the same force and effect as if such immigrant had been of full age at the time of the signing of such contract; and from and after the taking effect of this Ordinance every minor immigrant of the age of 15 years and upwards may enter into a contract in the presence of the Immigration Agent General, and shall be bound by such contract in the same manner as if such immigrant were of full age.

How minor Immigrants under 15 years to be indentured. 2. From and after the taking effect of this Ordinance, every minor immigrant under the age of 15 years (except liberated Africans of the second class) arriving in the Colony shall be indentured to serve for the same term as an immigrant of the same description of full age; and every such indenture shall be executed in triplicate, in the form set forth in the schedule hereunto annexed marked (B.), or as near thereto as may be, and shall be signed by the Immigration Agent General on behalf of such immigrant, and by the employer of such immigrant; and every such indenture shall have in all respects the same force and effect, and shall be subject to all such regulations, as by the laws in force at the time of the execution of such indenture shall attach to a contract between an immigrant of the same description of full age and an employer.

Children not to be separated from their parents. 3. In no case of any original or subsequent indenture shall any separation be allowed between children under the age of 15 years and their parents or natural protectors, and when the location of any parent or natural protector, with whom any such child has been allotted, shall be changed, a corresponding change shall be made in the location of such child.

Fresh indentures to be entered into when employer of minor Immigrant changed. 4. When by reason of any change of employer on the part of any minor immigrant under the age of 15 years, or any parent or natural protector of such minor immigrant, or from any other cause, it shall be necessary for a fresh indenture to be executed on the part of such minor immigrant, such indenture shall be executed in the same manner, and shall have the same force and effect, as provided in Section 2 of this Ordinance with respect to indentures executed under the said section.

Form of indentures. 5. All contracts and indentures hereafter to be executed, and whether the immigrants to whom they relate have already arrived, or shall hereafter arrive, shall be respectively in the forms hereunto annexed, and marked respectively (A.) and (B.), or as near thereto as may be, except indentures of liberated Africans of the second class, which shall remain the same, and subject in all respects to the same regulations, as heretofore.

Manner of executing indentures. 6. All contracts and indentures whatsoever, hereafter to be executed, and whether the immigrants to whom they relate have already arrived, or shall hereafter arrive, may be executed on the part of the employer in the presence of the Immigration Agent General, or a stipendiary or special justice, as may be most convenient; and every stipendiary or special justice receiving any contract or indenture for the purpose of procuring the signature thereto of any employer within his district, shall at once give notice thereof in writing to such employer; and if such employer shall fail, for one month after receiving such notice, to execute such contract or indenture, the Immigration Agent General may, with the sanction of the Governor, transfer the services of such immigrant to any other employer, who shall bear the employer who may have failed as aforesaid, harmless of all expenses and liability in respect of such immigrant.

7. Whenever

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Provision for loss of service when immigrant under indenture imprisoned by any supreme or inferior criminal court.

7. Whenever any immigrant under contract or indenture shall be imprisoned under sentence of any supreme or inferior court of criminal justice, the employer of such immigrant may, if he so chooses, forthwith transmit to the Immigration Agent General the part of the contract or indenture in his (the employer's) possession, and give notice to the stipendiary or special justice of the district, who shall be bound on receiving such notice, forthwith to transmit to the Immigration Agent General the part of the contract or indenture in his (the justice's) possession; and the Immigration Agent General shall endorse on each part of such contract or indenture in his possession a certificate of the additional number of days which such immigrant is bound to serve in consequence of such imprisonment, and shall return the said parts to the persons entitled thereto respectively; and such certificate shall operate as a new contract or indenture for the time set forth therein; and both the employer and the immigrant shall, during such time, be subject to all the rules, regulations, and liabilities to which they were respectively subject under the said contract or indenture.

Provision for loss of service when immigrant under indenture imprisoned by any stipendiary or special justice.

8. Whenever any immigrant under contract or indenture shall be imprisoned under sentence of a stipendiary or special justice, such justice shall endorse on each of the parts of such contract or indenture in his possession, and in the possession of the employer and immigrant respectively, a statement specifying the offence and the number of days of such imprisonment, and if such offence shall involve any absence from work or any desertion, specifying also the number of days of such absence or desertion, and all such numbers shall be in words at length, and not in figures; and at any period not less than one month before the expiration of the term of such contract or indenture, such employer may, if he so chooses, transmit to the Immigration Agent General the part of the contract or indenture in his (the employer's) possession, and give notice to the stipendiary or special justice of the district, who shall be bound, on receiving such notice, forthwith to transmit to the Immigration Agent General the part of the contract or indenture in his (the justice's) possession; and the Immigration Agent General shall endorse on each of the parts of such contract or indenture his certificate that such immigrant is bound to serve, in addition to such term, the entire number of days so specified by such justice; and such certificate shall operate as a new contract or indenture for the time set forth therein; and both the employer and the immigrant shall during such time be subject to all the rules, regulations, and liabilities to which they were respectively subject under the said contract or indenture.

Provision for loss of any part of an indenture.

9. In case of the loss, either before or after endorsement, of any of the parts of a contract or indenture, the remaining part or parts shall be sufficient for all the purposes of Sections 7 and 8 of this Ordinance.

Punishment for fraudulent use of certificate or contract.

10. Any immigrant who shall use or attempt to use, and any person who shall aid or abet any immigrant in using or attempting to use, for any fraudulent or deceitful purpose, any certificate of industrial residence, passport, ticket-of-leave, contract, or indenture, shall be subject, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding 23 dollars, or to imprisonment with hard labour for not more than 30 days; and in case of the recovery of such fine, one-half thereof shall be paid to the informer, and the other half shall be paid to the Receiver General, or Assistant Receiver General, to be appropriated in the same manner as all other monies received by him under any Ordinance relating to immigration.

Contracts of service for three years made in British possessions in the West Indies declared valid.

11. Every contract for service in this Colony, made in any other British possession in the West Indies, between any employer, or the agent of any employer in this Colony, and any person residing in such other British possession, shall be as valid and effectual as if entered into within this Colony: Provided that no such contract shall be for a term exceeding three years; and that every such contract shall be in writing or print, or partly in writing and partly in print, and shall be signed by both the parties thereto; and that the signature to any such contract of every person so residing in such other British possession shall be affixed in the presence of a justice of the peace, residing in the place in which such contract is entered into; and that such justice shall certify that such contract was fully explained to such person before the signing of the same by him, and that he fully understood the same; and every signature purporting to be the signature of any such justice of the peace shall be held to be genuine without any proof thereof; but any person disputing the genuineness of such signature shall be at liberty to prove that such signature is not genuine.

Interpretation clause.

12. In this Ordinance, and in all Ordinances now in force, relating to immigration, the term "Immigration Agent General" shall also mean "Sub-Immigration Agent;" except in so far as relates to the future indenturing of minor immigrants under the age of 15 years, all indentures on the part of whom shall be executed by the Immigration Agent General himself.

Repeal of previous laws.

13. So much of the laws heretofore in force relating to immigration and contracts of service, as is repugnant to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Ordinance, shall be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

When Ordinance to take effect.

14. This Ordinance shall come into operation and take effect on the publication thereof.

And

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our Ordinance, these Presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus done and enacted at our Adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, city of Georgetown, Demerara, this 22d day of October, 1857, and published on the 7th of November following.

(signed) *Wm. Walker.*

By command of the Court,

(signed) *J. Gardiner Austin,*
Actg. Govt. Secretary.

(A.)—ORDINANCE, No. , 1857.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. Ship of Import—

CONTRACT entered into this day of , in the year of our Lord 18 , between , as the proprietor of plantation, and of The said agrees to hire the services of the said , and the said agrees to render to the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, services in the capacity of , for the term of years, commencing on the day of in the year 18 , and terminating on the day of in the year 18 . And it is further agreed between the said parties, that the said shall be employed by the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, on plantation . And it is further agreed, that the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, shall pay to the said , as such labourer aforesaid, the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under indenture or contract, working on said estate, and such wages shall be paid on the last day of the week. And it is further agreed that, in the event of the said plantation being sold at execution sale, or by the Administrator General, the said shall serve the purchaser thereof, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, and shall be paid wages by the said purchaser, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, in conformity with this contract.

Attestation of employer's signature,
Signed by the abovenamed , in my presence.
Attestation of immigrant's signature,
Signed by the abovenamed , in my presence.

(B.)—ORDINANCE, No. , 1857.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. Ship of Import—

INDENTURE made this day of , in the year of our Lord 18 , between , as , the proprietor of plantation , and the Immigration Agent General, on behalf of , a minor immigrant, of the age of years.

The said agrees to hire the services of the said , and the said Immigration Agent General agrees that the said shall render to the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, services in the capacity of , for the term of years, commencing on the day of , in the year 18 , and terminating on the day of , in the year 18 . And it is further agreed between the said parties, that the said shall be employed by the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, on plantation . And it is further agreed, that the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns shall pay to the said , as such labourer aforesaid, the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under indenture, or contract, working on said estate, and that such wages shall be paid on the last day of the week. And it is further agreed, that in the event of the said plantation being sold at execution sale, or by the Administrator General, the said shall serve the purchaser thereof, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, and shall be paid wages by the said purchaser, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, in conformity with this contract.

Attestation of employer's signature,
Signed by the abovenamed , in my presence.
Signature of Immigration Agent General.
Signed by me, on behalf of the abovenamed
Immigration Agent General.

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Appendix No. 7.

No. 2.—BRITISH GUIANA.—1858.

[COURT OF POLICY.]

AN ORDINANCE to Regulate the Introduction of Immigrants from *Bombay* on Private Account.

(L.S.)
W. Walker.

ORDINANCE enacted by his Excellency *William Walker*, Esq., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c., by and with the Advice and Consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

To all to whom these Presents do, may, or shall come, Greeting! be it known:—

Preamble.

WHEREAS Her Majesty's Government have been pleased, with the consent of the Chairman and Court of Directors of the East India Company, to sanction the introduction of immigrants on private account from Bombay into the Colony of British Guiana, subject to certain rules and regulations: Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, as follows:

The Secretary of State may appoint an Emigration Agent at Bombay for the Colony.

1. It shall be lawful for the Right Honourable Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies to appoint an Emigration Agent at the port of Bombay for the Colony of British Guiana, for the purposes of this Ordinance, to be remunerated as hereinafter provided; and it shall be the duty of such agent to procure and maintain at Bombay, and to ship on board the vessels to be furnished by duly licensed parties as hereinafter provided, such number of Indian immigrants as may from time to time be applied for by the Governor of British Guiana.

Governor may grant licences to parties wishing to import immigrants.

2. Any person who may be desirous of introducing into British Guiana, at his own expense, immigrants under contracts to serve upon his plantation, shall apply to the Governor for a license to that effect, stating the number required for each such plantation, and the Governor may grant or refuse such license.

Bond to be given by licensee and two sureties.

3. Before any such license shall be granted, the person applying for the same shall enter into a bond, jointly and severally, with two sufficient sureties, to the satisfaction of the Governor, in the sum of 2,000*l.*, conditioned for the performance of the following stipulations, namely, that the space required by the Indian law shall be allowed to the emigrants on the between-decks, and also such part of the upper deck as shall be set apart by the Protector of Emigrants at Bombay; that issues of food, firewood, and water shall be made according to the scale contained in the Schedule (A.) hereunto annexed, or in such other scale as may be authorised by the Secretary of State, or the Court of Directors of the East India Company; that they shall receive the requisite medicines and medical attendance; that they shall not be allowed to purchase spirituous liquors; that no intercourse shall be allowed between the crew and the females on board; and that the emigrants generally shall be subject to no ill-usage; and likewise that the licensee will repay any expenses that may be incurred for collecting and maintaining any emigrants for whom he may fail to provide passages, together with all fees and gratuities that may be due in respect of them.

Governor to forward instructions to Emigration Agent at Bombay.

4. The Governor shall, on granting any such license, forward to the Emigration Agent at Bombay instructions to collect the required number of emigrants, and shall state the time at which they should be ready for embarkation.

Duties of Emigration Agent to be performed subject to inspection of Protector of Emigrants.

5. The duties of the Emigration Agent shall be performed, subject to the constant inspection of the Protector of Emigrants at Bombay, who shall at all times have access to the depôt, and every facility for ascertaining the propriety of the proceedings.

No emigrant ship to clear out without authority of the Protector of Emigrants.

6. No emigrant ship shall clear out without the authority of the Protector of Emigrants, who shall first ascertain that the emigrants are leaving the country voluntarily; that their contracts are in the approved form, and that they have an adequate understanding of them, and generally of what they are doing; that the ship in which they are embarked is seaworthy, and provided with all things proper for the voyage, with the requisite fittings, stores and medicines, with a surgeon, and interpreter, approved by the Protector; that the between-decks are properly ventilated; that proper space is allowed for the emigrants there and on the upper deck for exercise; and that the required proportion of females is placed on board. The Protector shall sign, and deliver to the master for production to the Immigration

Immigration Agent General of British Guiana, a list of the emigrants placed on board, on which he shall endorse any information which it is desirable to communicate to such Immigration Agent General.

Immigration Agent General and Health Officer to report to the Governor on every emigrant ship arriving in the Colony.

7. The Immigration Agent General and the Health officer shall board every emigrant ship arriving in this Colony from Bombay, and ascertain by examination of the diary to be kept by the surgeon, and by other means, the number of deaths, and the general condition of the immigrants during the voyage; and if the immigrants shall not have been treated according to the terms of the licence, such officers shall make a report to the Governor, who shall be at liberty, if he shall think fit, to allot the immigrants to other employers, as well as to put the bond of the licensee in suit.

Report to be communicated to the Secretary of State.

8. The report of the Immigration Agent General, and the Health Officer on every such ship, and the proceedings taken thereon by the Governor of British Guiana, shall be communicated to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies in all cases.

Colony to be liable for all fees and expenses due to Emigration Agent at Bombay.

9. The Colony shall be bound and liable to pay to the Emigration Agent a fee of three rupees (or such other sum as may, from time to time be fixed by the Governor and Court of Policy, with the approval of Her Majesty's Government) for each emigrant shipped or brought to the port of Bombay for embarkation, as well as any expenses which may be incurred for collecting the emigrants and maintaining them at Bombay. These payments shall be made through the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Emigration Agent to transmit to Governor a statement of all expenses incurred.

10. The Emigration Agent shall, on the departure of each ship, endorse on the Protector's list, and also transmit by post to the Governor of British Guiana a certificate of all expenses incurred on account of the emigrants on board, and shall, at the close of every season, transmit to the Governor a statement of all expenses incurred in the course of such season.

Gratuity to master and surgeon of every emigrant ship.

11. The master and surgeon of every ship in which immigrants shall be introduced into this Colony, under the provisions of this Ordinance, shall each be entitled to receive from the Colony a gratuity at the rate of one dollar for each adult immigrant landed alive, and in good health, subject to a deduction at the rate of 24 dollars, or 5 *l.* sterling for each adult immigrant dying on the passage, or landed in a state unfit for work through sickness.

Form of contracts to be entered into by emigrants at Bombay.

12. The contracts to be entered into by emigrants at Bombay, under the provisions of this Ordinance, may be in the form contained in the Schedule (B.) hereunto annexed, and every contract purporting to be certified by the signature of the Protector of Emigrants at the port of Bombay shall be held to be genuine without any proof thereof; but every person disputing the genuineness of such signature shall be at liberty to prove that such signature is not genuine.

Employment of immigrants introduced under this Ordinance, to be regulated by the General Immigration Laws of the Colony.

13. The employment in this Colony of immigrants to be introduced under the provisions of this Ordinance shall be regulated by the same laws as shall be at the time in force in this Colony for regulating the employment of all other immigrants from the East Indies.

Preferent lien of the Colony for the bonds to be given under this Ordinance.

14. The bonds to be given under this Ordinance may be recovered by the Receiver General on behalf of the Colony by parate execution, and such Receiver General, on behalf of the Colony, shall have and hold for the amount of such bonds a preferent lien on the plantations on which the immigrants shall be employed under the provisions of this Ordinance over and above all liens and mortgages, legal and conventional, except liens and preferent rights of the Crown, and such as are allowed or created by any Ordinance.

Section 5, of Ord. 7, of 1854, repealed.

15. Section 5 of Ordinance No. 7, of 1854, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

When Ordinance to take effect.

16. This Ordinance shall not come into operation until the same be approved by Her Majesty.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our Ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus done and enacted at our adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, City of Georgetown, Demerara, this 12th day of January 1858, and published on the

(signed) *William Walker.*

By command of the Court,

J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Secretary.

Appendix, No. 7.

Schedule (A.)

Scale of Provisions, Firewood, and Water necessary for a Ship conveying Emigrants from the East to the West Indies.

Quantity of provisions per diem, to be issued to each Immigrant—

	Oz.	
Rice Balam	20	
Doll, Patna, Urhior	4	
Ghee, good Buffaloe	1	
Oil, pure mustard	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Salt, country, middling white	1	
Turmeric, bright yellow	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Onions, old Patna	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Tobacco, smoking	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Tobacco, old leaf	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Chillies, Patna	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Tamarind, old	2	
Goor cane	1	every second day.
Water	1	gallon per diem.

Firewood—	*Lbs.*	
For 100 persons or less	400	per day.
100 „ to 200	600	„
200 „ to 300	700	„
300 „ to 400	800	„

Schedule (B.)

Form of Contract.

Be it remembered that on the day of 185 appeared before me, , Protector of Emigrants at the port of Bombay, the persons whose names are undermentioned, and in my presence signed their names (or marks) to the following agreement:—

We, the undersigned, do hereby agree to go to the Colony of British Guiana, there to reside for the space of 10 years, on the conditions following—

That we shall, on arrival, enter into contracts to serve as agricultural labourers, for the wages paid to labourers not under indentures, on plantation or on such other plantation as may be assigned by the Governor of the said Colony, for the term of three years, and thereafter for the further term of two years, upon the same plantation or such others as we may select; and that after the expiration of the term of five years we shall enter into annual contracts, to serve as aforesaid upon some plantation, for each of the five following years, or shall, in default, pay to the Immigration Agent General of the said Colony the sum of 2*l.* 10*s.* or 12 dollars for each such year, and that we shall, during the said term of ten years, comply with the laws relating to Immigrants; and upon the further condition that we shall be provided, upon application to be made within 18 months after the expiration of the said term of 10 years, free of cost, with a passage back to the port of Bombay.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto signed our name (or marks) in the presence of the above-mentioned Protector of Emigrants.

I, the above-named Protector of Emigrants at the port of Bombay, do hereby certify that the above signatures (or marks) were duly made in my presence, and that the above contract was fully explained to the persons entering into the same, and that they fully understood the same.

A. B., Protector of Emigrants.

Appendix, No. 8. Appendix, No. 8.

No. 17.—BRITISH GUIANA.—1858.

[COURT OF POLICY.]

AN ORDINANCE for the Encouragement of Immigration from *China*.

ORDINANCE enacted by his Excellency *Philip Edmund Wodehouse*, Esq., Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c., by and with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

(L.S.)
P. E. Wodehouse.

To all to whom these Presents do, may, or shall come, Greeting! be it known:—

WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for the introduction into this Colony of Chinese labourers at the expense of private parties: Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, as follows:— Preamble.

1. The 14th section of the Ordinance No. 7, of 1854, is hereby repealed. Repeal of Section 14, of Ordinance 7, of 1854.

2. The parties proposing to introduce Chinese labourers under this Ordinance shall, before the 1st day of December next, furnish the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners and the Governor respectively, with a list, signed by the proprietors, or by the authorised attorneys of the proprietors of the plantations for which such labourers are to be introduced, setting forth the number of labourers desired to be allotted to each such plantation; and each such proprietor shall thereupon become liable for the payment of any expenses which may be incurred under any of the provisions of this Ordinance, in respect to any Chinese labourers to be introduced thereunder, in proportion to the number stated opposite to the name of his plantation in such list; and all such expenses may be recovered from such proprietor in the same manner as the amount of any promissory notes, now given by proprietors of estates to whom immigrants are indentured, may be recovered. Proprietors and their plantations to be liable for cost of introduction of Chinese labourers in proportion to the number applied for.

3. All written contracts for the performance of any labour or service of agriculture in this Colony which shall be made with any Chinese labourer, male or female, who shall leave China or Hong Kong for this Colony between the passing of this Ordinance and the 1st day of April next ensuing, shall be binding on the parties thereto for the period named therein, not exceeding the period of five years, to be computed from the day of the landing of such labourer in British Guiana, and every such contract shall be signed with the names or marks of the contracting parties, or of persons lawfully acting on their behalf, and shall be attested by the Emigration Officer at the port of embarkation, who shall declare that the labourers, parties to such contract, signed the same voluntarily, and with a due understanding of its effect; and every signature purporting to be the signature of any such Emigration Officer shall be held to be genuine without any proof thereof, but any person disputing the genuineness of any such signature shall be at liberty to prove that such signature is not genuine; and every such contract shall conform to the following conditions, namely:— Requisites of contracts of service.

1st. Every such contract shall secure to the labourer making the same, the right to receive in lieu of any fixed wages specified therein, the rate of wages which may, from time to time, be paid to unindentured labourers working on the estate on which he shall be employed.

2nd. Every such contract shall bind the employer to furnish to the labourer, free of charge, suitable lodging, and, when sick, suitable and sufficient medicines and nourishment, medical attendance, and hospital accommodation.

3rd. Every such contract may be terminated by the labourer, party thereto, at the expiration of the third year thereof, on payment to the Immigration Agent General of 50 dollars, or at the expiration of the fourth year thereof on payment of 25 dollars.

4th. Every such contract may bind the labourer to repay to his employer, at such rate, not exceeding 1 dollar a month, as may be determined by the Governor and Court of Policy, such specified sum, not exceeding 12 dollars, as may have been advanced to him before leaving China or Hong Kong.

4. Such contracts may be made in the form contained in the annexed Schedule, and at their expiration may be renewed for a period not exceeding three years. Contracts may be in form in the Schedule.

5. Upon the arrival in the Colony of any ship having Chinese labourers on board, the Immigration Agent General shall, with the Health Officer of the port, forthwith proceed on board of such vessel, and with the assistance of such Health Officer shall ascertain by personal inspection of the vessel and of the passengers therein, and of the emigration papers furnished to the Master of the said vessel, in pursuance of the Chinese Passengers' Act, 1855," On arrival of ship, Immigration Agent General and Health Officer to ascertain whether provisions of "Chinese Passengers' Act, 1855" have been complied with.

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1855," whether the provisions of the said Act have been complied with or not, and shall report to the Governor of the Colony respecting the state of such vessel and the treatment of the passengers therein, and whether there appear to be any grounds for proceeding against the said vessel, or the Master thereof, under the provisions of the said Act, and respecting all other such matters as the Governor may direct.

Contracts to be submitted to the Immigration Agent General for approval and record.

6. Every contract made under the provisions of this Ordinance shall, on the arrival of the Chinese labourers, be submitted to the Immigration Agent General, who shall and may make such alterations therein for the benefit of the labourers as he shall judge necessary to make the same conformable to the above conditions, and shall thereupon record and sign the same, and no such contract or altered contract shall be binding on any such labourer till so signed; and the Sub-Immigration Agent shall be entitled to the sum of 24 cents for each contract so recorded, to be paid by the persons to whom the labourers may be allotted as hereinafter provided.

Labourers to be allotted by the Governor, and employers to pay the cost of their introduction.

7. The Governor may, on their arrival, allot any such Chinese labourers in such proportions as he shall think fit, not exceeding in any case the number applied for, to the plantations mentioned in the list to be furnished under the provisions of the 2nd section hereof, and each proprietor to whom the same may be allotted shall thereupon pay in cash to the Receiver General the cost of the passage of each such labourer, together with any expenses which may have been incurred in this Colony under any of the provisions hereof in respect to each such labourer.

In certain cases the Governor may allot the labourers to other than the original applicants.

8. In the event of any proprietor to whom any such Chinese labourers may be allotted as aforesaid, being unable to pay the said passage money and expenses, or in the event of any such proprietor not having provided on his plantation suitable lodging or hospital accommodation for such labourers, and in the event of there being no other of the parties mentioned in the list aforesaid willing then to receive such labourers, the Governor may allot them on the best terms practicable to the proprietor of any plantation in the Colony who may be willing to receive them, who shall thereupon become bound by the provisions of the contracts made in China or Hong Kong with such labourers; and any expenses which may be incurred on account of such labourers, and which may not be paid by such last mentioned proprietor, shall be recoverable from the proprietor to whom they were first allotted under the preceding section hereof.

Governor may direct payment of passage money, not exceeding 96 dollars per adult.

9. The Governor shall, out of any sums to be received under the preceding sections hereof, direct payment to be made of the passage money due on account of the Chinese labourers to be introduced as aforesaid, not exceeding in any case the sum of 96 dollars for each adult.

Certain sections of Ordinance 7, of 1854, to apply to labourers introduced under this Ordinance.

10. Every contract made or renewed under the provisions hereof shall be deemed to be an indenture, and during the currency of the same any Chinese labourer shall be deemed to be an immigrant, within the meaning of the following sections of the Ordinance No. 7 of 1854, namely:—The 10th and 11th sections; from the 22d to the 33d inclusive; from the 35th to the 42d sections inclusive; the 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 49th, 50th, 51st and 55th sections; from the 57th to the 60th sections inclusive.

Contract may be cancelled on employer failing to provide employment.

11. If it shall be established before any stipendiary or special Justice of the Peace on complaint preferred by any Chinese labourer, that such labourer is not provided by his employer with sufficient work to enable him to earn a just amount of wages under the terms of any such contract as aforesaid, such Justice shall declare his contract to be cancelled, and shall report the same to the Immigration Agent General, and thereupon it shall be lawful for the Governor to cause such labourer to be indentured to some other employer on the terms as near as may be of the said contract, for a period not exceeding the unexpired period of his term of service.

To whom sums received in commutation of service to be paid.

12. All sums received by the Immigration Agent General from any Chinese labourer under the third condition in the third section of this Ordinance, shall be paid over by him to the person by whom such labourer shall at the time be employed.

Interpretation clause.

13. The words "Governor," "Immigration Agent General," "written contracts," "plantation," and "employer," where used in this Ordinance or in the annexed Schedule, shall bear the meanings assigned to them in the 62d section of the Ordinance No. 7, of 1854.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our Ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus done and enacted at our Adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, this 5th day of July 1858, and published on the 10th following.

(signed) *P. E. Wodehouse.*

By command of the Court,

(signed) *Wm. Walker*, Secretary.

SCHEDULE, SECTION 4. Appendix, No. 8.

IT is agreed between A. B., Chinese labourer, and C. D., acting on behalf of certain persons proposing to introduce Chinese labourers into British Guiana, under the provisions of Ordinance, No. 17 of 1858, that A. B. shall serve such person, and on such plantation in British Guiana as the Governor may appoint, in the growing or manufacturing of articles the produce of such plantation, for the term of five years from the day on which A. B. shall land in British Guiana, provided always that it shall be lawful for A. B. to terminate the said agreement at the expiration of three years, on payment of the sum of 50 dollars, or at the end of four years, on payment of the sum of 25 dollars. And it is further agreed, that the employer to whom the said A. B. shall be allotted, A. B., the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under contract or indenture, working on the same plantation (which wages shall be paid weekly), and that the employer shall supply A. B., free of cost, with suitable lodging, and with such medicines, nourishment, and medical attendance, and hospital accommodation as A. B. may need when sick; and it is further agreed, that if the same plantation shall come into the possession of any other person than the employer to whom he shall be first allotted, A. B. shall be bound to serve such other person if required so to do on the same plantation, and on the above terms.

And it is further agreed that the employer may deduct from the wages of A. B., at a rate not exceeding one dollar a month, the total sum of (not more that 12) dollars, which A. B. acknowledges himself to have received in advance before leaving China (or Hong Kong).

A. B.
C. D.

I hereby declare that the labourer, party to this contract, signed the same voluntarily, and with a due understanding of its effect.

E. F., Emigration Officer.

The labourer whose name appears in the above contract has been allotted in conformity with the 7th section of Ordinance, No. 17 of 1858, to plantation in the county of

G. H., Immigration Agent General.

(True copy.)

W. Walker, Secretary.

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Appendix, No. 9.

No. 26.—BRITISH GUIANA.—1858.

[COURT OF POLICY.]

AN ORDINANCE to Regulate the Introduction of Immigrants from *Bombay* on Private Account.

(L. S.)
P. E. Wodehouse.

ORDINANCE enacted by his Excellency *Philip Edmund Wodehouse*, Esquire, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c. by and with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

To all to whom these Presents do, may, or shall come, Greeting! be it known:—

Preamble. WHEREAS Her Majesty's Government have been pleased to sanction the introduction of immigrants on private account from Bombay into the Colony of British Guiana, subject to certain rules and regulations: Be it therefore enacted, by his Excellency the Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, as follows:—

An Emigration Agent at Bombay for the Colony may be appointed. 1. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty to appoint an Emigration Agent at the port of Bombay for the Colony of British Guiana for the purposes of this Ordinance, to be remunerated as hereinafter provided; and it shall be the duty of such agent to procure and maintain at Bombay, and to ship on board the vessels to be furnished by duly licensed parties as hereinafter provided, such number of Indian immigrants as may from time to time be applied for by the Governor of British Guiana.

Governor may grant licenses to parties wishing to import immigrants. 2. Any person who may be desirous of introducing into British Guiana, at his own expense, immigrants under contracts to serve upon his plantation, shall apply to the Governor for a license to that effect, stating the number required for each such plantation, and the Governor may grant or refuse such license.

Bond to be given by licensee and two sureties. 3. Before any such license shall be granted, the person applying for the same shall enter into a bond, jointly and severally, with two sufficient sureties, to the satisfaction of the Governor, in the sum of 2,000 *l.*, conditioned for the performance of the following stipulations, namely:—That no ship employed by him for the conveyance of emigrants under this Ordinance shall clear from Bombay with emigrants without a written authority from the Protector of Emigrants; and that the failure to produce such written authority shall be *primâ facie* evidence of the same not having been obtained; that the space required by the Indian Law shall be allowed to the emigrants on the between decks, and also such part of the

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the upper deck as shall be set apart by the Protector of Emigrants at Bombay; that issues of food, firewood, and water shall be made according to the scale contained in the Schedule (A.) hereunto annexed, or such other scale as may be authorised by Her Majesty's Government; that they shall receive the requisite medicines and medical attendance; that they shall not be allowed to purchase spirituous liquors; that no intercourse shall be allowed between the crew and the females on board; and that the emigrants generally shall be subject to no ill-usage; and likewise that the licensee will repay any expenses that may be incurred for collecting and maintaining the emigrants, including those for whom he may fail to provide passages, together with all gratuities that may be due in respect of them, and his proportionate share of the salary of the Emigration Agent, and of the emigration expenses at Bombay.

Governor to forward instructions to Emigration Agent.

4. The Governor shall, on granting any such license, forward to the Emigration Agent at Bombay instructions to collect the required number of emigrants, and shall state the time at which they should be ready for embarkation.

Duties of agent to be performed subject to inspection of Protector of Emigrants.

5. The duties of the Emigration Agent shall be performed, subject to the constant inspection of the Protector of Emigrants at Bombay, who shall at all times have access to the depôt and every facility for ascertaining the propriety of the proceedings.

No emigrant ship to clear out without authority of the Protector of Emigrants.

6. No emigrant ship shall clear out without the authority of the Protector of Emigrants' who shall first ascertain that the emigrants are leaving the country voluntarily; that their contracts are in the approved form, and that they have an adequate understanding of them, and generally of what they are doing; that the ship in which they are embarked is seaworthy, and provided with all things proper for the voyage, with the requisite fittings, stores, and medicines, with a surgeon, and interpreter, approved by the Protector; that the between decks are properly ventilated; that proper space is allowed for the emigrants there, and on the upper deck for exercise; and that such proportion of females is placed on board as may be from time to time required by Her Majesty's Government. The Protector shall sign and deliver to the master, for production to the Immigration Agent General of British Guiana, a list of the emigrants placed on board, on which he shall endorse any information which it is desirable to communicate to such Immigration Agent General.

Report to be made to the Governor on every emigrant ship arriving in the Colony.

7. The Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer shall board every emigrant ship arriving in this Colony from Bombay, and ascertain by examination of the diary to be kept by the surgeon, and by other means, the number of deaths and the general condition of the immigrants during the voyage; and if the immigrants shall not have been treated according to the terms of the license, such officers shall make a report to the Governor, who shall be at liberty, if he shall think fit, to allot the immigrants to other employers, as well as to put the bond of the licensee in suit.

Report to be communicated to the Secretary of State.

8. The report of the Immigration Agent General and the Health Officer on every such ship, and the proceedings taken thereon by the Governor of British Guiana, shall be communicated to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies in all cases.

Colony to be liable to agent for salary and expenses at Bombay.

9. The Colony shall be bound and liable to pay to the Emigration Agent such salary as may, from time to time, be fixed by the Governor and Court of Policy, with the Financial Representatives of the inhabitants of the Colony in Combined Court assembled, as well as any expenses which may be incurred for collecting the emigrants and maintaining them at Bombay, and these payments shall be made through the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Emigration Agent to transmit to Governor a statement of all expenses incurred.

10. The Emigration Agent shall on the departure of each ship endorse on the Protector's list, and also transmit by post to the Governor of British Guiana, a certificate of all expenses incurred on account of the emigrants on board, and such certificate shall be held to be correct without any proof thereof; but every person disputing the correctness of such certificate shall be at liberty to prove that the same is incorrect, and the Emigration Agent shall, at the close of every season, transmit to the Governor a statement of all expenses incurred in the course of such season, which shall be recovered in proper proportion from the plantations, for the benefit of which the licenses shall have been granted, and an account certified by the Financial Accountant shall be deemed and taken to be *primâ facie* evidence of the amount due from any such plantation.

Gratuity to master and surgeon of every emigrant ship.

11. The master and surgeon of every ship in which immigrants shall be introduced into this Colony under the provisions of this Ordinance shall each be entitled to receive from the Colony a gratuity at the rate of one dollar for each adult immigrant landed alive and in good health, subject to a deduction at the rate of 15 dollars, or 3*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* sterling, for each adult immigrant dying on the passage, or landed in a state unfit for work through sickness; but no such master or surgeon shall be entitled to any such gratuity unless he shall have performed his duty to the satisfaction of the Governor, and it shall be lawful for the Governor and Court of Policy to waive such deductions in any case where they shall be satisfied that the master and surgeon have performed their duties satisfactorily.

Form of contracts to be entered into by emigrants at Bombay.

12. The contracts to be entered into by emigrants at Bombay under the provisions of this Ordinance may be in the form contained in the Schedule (B.) hereunto annexed, and every contract purporting to be certified by the signature of the Protector of Emigrants at the Port of Bombay shall be held to be genuine without any proof thereof; but every person

person disputing the genuineness of such signature shall be at liberty to prove that such signature is not genuine.

13. The employment in this Colony of immigrants to be introduced under the provisions of this Ordinance shall be regulated by the same laws as shall be at the time in force in this Colony for regulating the employment of all other immigrants from the East Indies.

Employment of immigrants introduced under this Ordinance.

14. If at the end of the third year of his industrial residence any Indian immigrant introduced under the provisions of this Ordinance shall change his employer, the employer to whom such immigrant shall then be indentured shall, at the execution of the new contract, pay to the Receiver General the sum of 25 dollars with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum from the date of the first indenture of such immigrant; and if at the end of the fourth year of his industrial residence any such immigrant shall change his employer, the employer to whom he shall then be indentured shall pay to the Receiver General the sum of 12 dollars and 50 cents., with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum from the date of the first indenture of such immigrant; and all sums so paid by the second or third employer to the Receiver General shall be by him paid to the employer to whom such immigrant shall have been last indentured; and if during the fourth or fifth year, or both, from the time of his arrival, any such Indian immigrant shall elect to pay to the Immigration Agent General the sum of 2*l.* 10*s.* for each such year instead of being indentured, he shall pay for the fourth and fifth years the sum of 5*l.*, and if the payment be for the fifth year only the sum of 2*l.* 10*s.*, and the money so paid shall be disposed of in the manner herein provided with respect to the sums paid by the second or third employers of such immigrants.

Provision for immigrant changing his employer or paying in commutation of service.

15. The bonds to be given under this Ordinance may be recovered by the Receiver General on behalf of the Colony by parate execution, and such Receiver General, on behalf of the Colony, shall have and hold for the amount of such bonds a preferent lien on the plantations for the benefit of which the licences shall have been granted over and above all liens and mortgages, legal and conventional, except liens and preferent rights of the Crown, and such as are allowed or created by any Ordinance.

Preferent lien of the Colony for the bonds to be given under this Ordinance.

16. In all cases where any immigrant introduced under this Ordinance shall have become permanently unfit for labour, or shall have completed his term of industrial residence, the Governor shall order a back passage to be provided for him at the expense of the Colony.

Obligation to provide back passages for immigrants.

17. Section 5 of Ordinance No. 7, of 1854, and Ordinance No. 2, of 1858, shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

Repeal of previous Ordinances.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our Ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus done and enacted at our adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, this 23d day of December 1858, and published on the 29th following.

P. E. Wodehouse.

By command of the Court,
William Walker, Secretary.

(True copy.)
W. Walker, Secretary.

SCHEDULE (A.)

SCALE of Provisions, Firewood, and Water necessary for a Ship conveying Emigrants from the *East* to the *West Indies*.

Quantity of provisions per diem to be issued to each Immigrant:—

Rice balam	20 oz.
Doll, Patna, Urhior	4 „
Ghee, good buffaloe	1 „
Oil, pure mustard	½ „
Salt, country, middling white	1 „
Turmeric, bright yellow	½ „
Onions, old Patna	½ „
Tobacco, smoking	½ „
Tobacco, old leaf	½ „
Chillies, Patna	½ „
Tamarind, old	½ „
Goor cane	2 „
Water	1 „ every 2d day.
	1 gallon per diem.

Firewood:—

For 100 persons or less	400 lbs. per day.
„ 100 „ to 200	600 „
„ 200 „ to 300	700 „
„ 300 „ to 400	800 „

Appendix, No. 9.

SCHEDULE (B.)

FORM of Contract.

BE it remembered, that on the day of 185 appeared before me , Protector of Emigrants at the port of Bombay, the persons whose names are undermentioned, and in my presence signed their names (or marks) to the following agreement:—

We, the undersigned, do hereby agree to go to the Colony of British Guiana, there to reside for the space of ten years, on the conditions following:—

That we shall, on arrival, enter into contracts to serve as agricultural labourers, for the wages paid to labourers not under indentures, on plantation or on such other plantation as may be assigned by the Governor of the said Colony, for the term of three years, and thereafter for the further term of two years upon the same plantation, or such others as we may select; and that after the expiration of the term of five years we shall enter into annual contracts to serve as aforesaid upon some plantation, for each of the five following years, or shall, in default, pay to the Immigration Agent General of the said Colony the sum of 2*l.* 10*s.* or 12 $. for each such year, and that we shall, during the said term of ten years, comply with the laws relating to immigrants; and upon the further condition that during the said term of ten years we shall be furnished gratuitously with suitable hospital accommodation, medicines, and nourishment, and medical attendance, and that we shall be provided, upon application to be made within 18 months after the expiration of the said term of ten years, free of cost, with a passage back to the port of Bombay.

In witness whereof we have hereunto signed our names (or marks) in the presence of the above-mentioned Protector of Emigrants.

I, the above named Protector of Emigrants at the port of Bombay, do hereby certify that the above signatures (or marks) were duly made in my presence, and that the above contract was fully explained to the persons entering into the same, and that they fully understood the same.

A. B., Protector of Emigrants.

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Appendix, No. 10.

No. 1.—BRITISH GUIANA.—1859.

[COURT OF POLICY.]

AN ORDINANCE further to encourage Immigration from *China*.

(L. S.)
P. E. Wodehouse.

ORDINANCE enacted by his Excellency *Philip Edmund Wodehouse*, Esquire, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c., with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony,

To all to whom these Presents do, may, or shall come, Greeting! Be it known—

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to extend and also to amend the provisions of the Ordinance, No. 17, of the year 1858, intituled, "An Ordinance for the Encouragement of Immigration from China:" and whereas at the annual meeting of the Honourable the Court of Policy combined with the Financial Representatives of the inhabitants thereof, it was resolved, on 2d day of June last past, as follows:—"That in the event of its being found possible to procure the immigration to this Colony of female Chinese immigrants, this Court pledges itself to defray the cost of their introduction under such conditions and regulations as his Excellency the Governor and the Court of Policy may be pleased to frame:" Be it therefore enacted, by his Excellency the Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, as follows:—

Provisions of Ordinance 17 of 1858 extended to Chinese labourers leaving after 1st April next.

1. The provisions of the Ordinance, No. 17, of the year 1858, shall be taken to apply, except in so far as the same are hereinafter altered and amended, to any Chinese labourers, males or females, who shall leave China or Hong Kong for this Colony at any time after the 1st day of April next ensuing, and the list required by the 2d section of said Ordinance to be furnished before the 1st day of December 1858, to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners and to the Governor, respectively, shall continue to be annually furnished, in the manner directed by the said section, and with the like liabilities resulting therefrom, before the 1st day of December, in this present and in each subsequent year.

2. Her

2. Her Majesty's Government may direct that after the 1st day of April next ensuing, such proportion of females as to them may appear proper, shall be placed on board of every vessel leaving China or Hong Kong for this Colony with Chinese labourers; or they may, if they shall think fit, in each season, direct that a number of females, proportioned to the number of labourers to be introduced during such season, shall be shipped in one or more vessels for this Colony; and the Governor shall not direct the payment of the passage money of any Chinese labourers who may leave China or Hong Kong after the 1st day of April next, unless the master of the vessel claiming the same shall produce a certificate from the Emigration Agent at the port of embarkation, showing that the proportion of females has been duly shipped in such manner as may have been so directed.

Her Majesty's Government may direct the proportion of females to be shipped.

3. The Governor may direct payment to be made out of such sum as may be from time to time voted for that purpose by the Governor and Court of Policy with the Financial Representatives in combined Court assembled, of a portion of the passage money of any Chinese females introduced into this Colony, at the rate of 50 dollars for each adult.

Governor may direct payment from public revenues of 50 dollars for each adult female.

4. No Chinese female shall be compelled to labour on the plantation to which she may be allotted, anything in Ordinance, No. 17, of 1858, to the contrary notwithstanding; and every contract to be made with any such Chinese female shall be made in the form contained in the annexed Schedule, and at its expiration may be renewed for a period not exceeding three years; and any such Chinese female committing a breach of any such contract shall be dealt with in manner provided by Ordinance, No. 7, of 1854, in the case of immigrants quitting the service of their employers without leave or reasonable cause.

Females not to be compelled to labour.

5. This Ordinance, and the Ordinance No. 17, of the year 1858, shall be construed together as one Ordinance.

This Ordinance and Ordinance 17 of 1858 to be construed together.

6. This Ordinance shall take effect when and so soon as the same shall be confirmed by Her Majesty.

When Ordinance to take effect.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our Ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus done and enacted at our adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, this 4th day of February 1859, and published on the 5th following.

P. E. Wodehouse.

By command of the Court,
W. Walker, Secretary.

SCHEDULE.

IT is agreed between *A. B.*, Chinese female, and *C. D.*, acting on behalf of certain persons proposing to introduce Chinese labourers into British Guiana, under the provisions of Ordinance, No. 17, of 1858, and No. 1, of 1859, that *A. B.* shall reside on such plantation in British Guiana, as the Governor may appoint, for the term of five years from the day on which *A. B.* shall land in British Guiana: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for *A. B.* to terminate the said agreement at the expiration of three years on the payment of the sum of 40 dollars, or at the end of four years on payment of the sum of 20 dollars; and it is further agreed that the proprietor of the plantation to which the said *A. B.* shall be allotted, shall supply the said *A. B.*, free of cost, with suitable lodging, and with such medicines, nourishment, and medical attendance, and hospital accommodation, as *A. B.* may need when sick.

A. B.
C. D.

I hereby declare that the Chinese female *A. B.*, party to this contract, signed the same voluntarily and with a due understanding of its effect.

E. F., Emigration Officer.

The Chinese female, whose name appears in the above contract, has been allotted to plantation in the county of

G. H., Immigration Agent General.

(A true copy.)

W. Walker, Secretary.

Appendix, No. 11.

No. 4171.

JAMAICA, ss.

CAP. VIII.

Appendix, No. 11.

AN ACT to provide for an extended Industrial Service of East Indian Immigrants, for allotting Lands to all Immigrants who shall fulfil their Contracts, and to make better Provision for the Return Passage of East Indian Immigrants.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the Governor General of India in Council has given his assent to the emigration to this Colony of natives of the possessions of the East India Company, under engagements to render industrial service for a period of ten years, in consideration whereof they are to be provided with a passage back to their own country at the expense of the Colony: And whereas Her Majesty's Government deem it expedient to provide for the reduction upon certain conditions, of the said period of industrial service: And whereas it is expedient to make provision for the allotment of lands in this Colony to immigrants, as an encouragement to the further settlement of this island, and the more efficient cultivation of the soil, a large extent of which now lies wholly waste: Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

Every East Indian immigrant, arriving after the passing of this Act, who shall obtain a certificate of industrial residence, shall be entitled after ten years to a return passage.

Proviso.

1. That every immigrant from Her Majesty's dominions in the East Indies, or from the possessions of the East India Company, who shall arrive in this Colony at any time after the passing of this Act, and who shall acquire a certificate of industrial residence in manner provided by the Act of the 15 Vict., c. 38, shall be entitled, at the expiration of ten years from the time of such arrival, to be provided at the expense of this Colony with a return passage to the port from whence he sailed: Provided, that it shall be incumbent upon every such immigrant as the condition of his claim to a return passage, that he shall, for the last five years of such ten years as above-mentioned, enter into one or more contracts of industrial service, any one of which contracts shall be of not less than one year's duration, and shall be subject to the provisions of the several Acts now in force, and of any Act hereafter to be in force for the regulation of immigration into this colony, or that such immigrant shall pay to the Agent General of Immigration the sum of 2 *l.* 10 *s.* for every one of such last five years during which he shall not have beeen under contract of service.

Members of the Executive Committee declared to be members of Immigration Correspondence.

2. That the members of the Executive Committee for the time being shall be, and they are hereby declared to be, members of the Board of Immigration Correspondence.

Governor to appropriate 5,000 *l.* out of immigration loan for the purchase of land.

3. That it shall be lawful for the Governor to appropriate out of the loan raised, or to be raised under the Act of the 15 Victoria, c. 39, such sums of money as may be found necessary, not exceeding (5,000 *l.*) for the purchase or acquisition of land for the purposes of this Act.

Board of Correspondence may purchase land for the purposes of this Act.

4. That it shall be lawful for the Board of Immigration Correspondence from time to time, to contract for the absolute purchase in fee-simple of any land which shall, from its proximity to any plantation, or other place wherever immigrants of any description may be located, or otherwise, shall, from any other circumstance, be suitable for the purposes of this Act; and all such lands shall be conveyed to Her Majesty the Queen, her heirs and successors, for the purposes of this Act.

Governor may grant lands to immigrants under certain conditions.

Proviso.

5. That it shall be lawful for the Governor to grant in Her Majesty's name any land purchased, or taken, for the purposes of this Act, to any immigrant of any description who may come to and desire to settle in this island, and whom the said Board of Immigration Correspondence shall recommend in consideration of his faithful performance and discharge of the contracts, or contract of service, which he shall have entered into, as a proper person to receive a grant of land, in the proportion of one acre for every year of service which he shall have given under contract as aforesaid: Provided, that unless such land so granted to such immigrant, shall be settled and cultivated in part, or in the whole, within 12 months from the date of his patent, such land shall be forfeited and become vested in Her Majesty the Queen as if the same had not been granted, and shall be thereafter applicable or disposable to the purposes of this Act.

A grant of land declared a waiver of right to return passage.

6. That every immigrant of any description who may, under this or any other Act, be entitled to claim a return passage, and shall accept a grant of land under this Act, shall be thereby held to have waived and surrendered all claim to a return passage.

Lands assigned to immigrants to be accurately surveyed.

7. That in order to ascertain correctly the bounds of the lands so intended to be granted under the provisions of this Act, it shall and may be lawful for the Governor to direct the different pieces or parcels of land, as from time to time they shall be granted, to be surveyed and laid out by one or more sworn surveyors to be named by him, who shall thereupon proceed to lay out such pieces or parcels of land, and make out two plats of each respectively under their hands, one of which shall be recorded in the office of the Secretary of this island, and the other given to the person to whom and in whose favour such grant or patent shall be made, and which said survey and plat so enrolled shall be conclusive as to the boundaries of any two contiguous parcels.

8. That

8. That all lands to be granted to immigrants by virtue of this Act, shall be acquitted and discharged of and from all arrearages of quit rent that may have been due and payable thereon to the time when such grant shall be made, and that all such grants of land under and by virtue of this Act shall be without fee or stamp duty, or any other charge in respect of such grant or patent.

Such lands to be acquitted of all arrears of quit rent; and the grants thereof to be free from stamp duty.

9. That all persons who shall receive a grant or patent for land under the provisions of this Act, shall be exempted from all manner of direct taxes and charges and assessments, public and parochial, whatsoever (any tax on horse kind and horned stock only excepted), for the space of three years from the time when such grant or patent shall be made.

Immigrants receiving grants of land to be exempt from certain taxes for three years.

10. That it shall be lawful for the Board of Immigration Correspondence to permit any immigrant at any time, or from time to time, during the period of his industrial service, to occupy any parcel of land which they shall think fit to assign to him for such term or space of time, and upon such conditions as they shall fix and determine upon, so that such occupation shall not prevent or interfere with the due and faithful discharge of any contract of service entered into by any such immigrant.

Immigrants under contract may occupy lands assigned to them by the Board of Correspondence;

11. That no immigrant who shall be permitted to occupy land during his industrial service, as herein provided, shall, nor shall the land so occupied be liable to any direct tax or charge or assessment, public or parochial, whatsoever, during such permissive occupation.

and during such permissive occupation shall be exempt from direct taxation.

12. That on the expiration of 30 days after a notice in writing, signed by any three of the members of such board, requiring any immigrant, permitted to occupy land during the period of his industrial service as herein provided, to quit and deliver up possession, shall have been left with such immigrant, his wife or widow, or any of his children or family, upon such land so permissively occupied; or in case no person be found in possession of such premises, then, upon the lapse of 30 days after such notice as aforesaid shall have been left upon the premises, if such possession shall not have been delivered up agreeably to the requirement of such notice, it shall be lawful for any two justices of the peace of the parish wherein such land is situate, having first summoned the defendant to appear before them by warrant, under their hands, to order any policeman, constable, or other peace officer, to enter upon such land, and into any dwellings thereon, and to remove every person who shall be found thereon, or therein, together with his goods out of the same, and to put the said Board of Immigration Correspondence in the possession thereof.

Such lands to be delivered up on notice,

or immigrant may be dispossessed by warrant of two justices.

13. That every person born out of the limits of British territory, who shall obtain a grant of land under the provisions of this Act, shall thereby become and be entitled within the limits of this island, to all the privileges of a natural-born British subject: Provided, that such person shall first have obtained a certificate, in the form hereunto annexed, from the Agent General of Immigration, and shall have recorded the same in the office of the secretary of this island, and shall have taken the oaths of allegiance, which the Agent General is hereby empowered to administer, and shall in such certificate certify having administered.

Immigrants born out of British territory may be naturalised on taking oaths, &c.

14. That in citing this Act in any document, instrument, or proceeding, it shall be sufficient to use the expression, "Extended Industrial Service and Land Allotment Act."

Short title of Act.

FORM of CERTIFICATE.

I certify that A. B., being a native of , and having a grant of land made to him under the provisions of the Vict., c. , has expressed his desire to become a naturalised British subject, and has this day taken before me the oath of allegiance to Her Majesty's Government, which I have administered unto him as by law I am authorised to do.

Dated this day of , in the year

C. D.,
Agent General of Immigration.

WARRANT to enter Land occupied under this Act, and Remove Persons therefrom.

Jamaica, ss.
Parish of } To any policeman, constable, or other peace officer.

WHEREAS complaint hath been made unto us, A. B. and C. D., esquires, two of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for the said parish, upon the oath of , and other evidence now produced to us, that E. F. occupies the piece or parcel of land situate at , by the permission of the Board of Immigration Correspondence, and hath been duly required to yield and deliver up the possession or occupation thereof, and hath refused, and still doth refuse to quit such possession; and the said E. F. having been summoned to appear before us this day to show cause why he should not be removed from the said land, and having shown no sufficient cause for such purpose (or not having appeared), we do hereby authorise and require you, with such assistance as shall be neces-

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sary, to enter into the said land and every house and building thereupon, in the day time, and remove the said E. F., and all such persons as shall be found therein, together with his and their goods out of such house and buildings and premises, and to put G. H., the person appointed by the Board of Immigration Correspondence, into the possession thereof.

Given under our hands, this day of

Passed the Assembly, this 9th day of December 1856.

(signed) *C. M'Clarty Morales,* Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 11th day of December 1856.

(signed) *Saml. Rennalls,*
Assistant Clerk to the Legislative Council.

I consent this 19th day of December 1856.

(signed) *E. W. Bell.*

(Vera Copia Extur.)
(signed) *W. J. Stewart,* Sec.

Appendix, No. 12.

Appendix, No. 12.

Act No. 4195 of 1858, cap. 5.

AN ACT to amend the Laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, and for raising Funds to defray the Expenses attendant upon their Introduction and subsequent Colonization in the Island.

Preamble.

Whereas it is necessary to amend the Laws relating to Agricultural Immigrants, to be hereafter introduced into this Island: Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows—

Interpretation of words used in this Act.

1. In the construction of this Act the following words and expressions shall have the meaning hereby assigned to them, if not inconsistent with the context or subject-matter; that is to say, the expression "Immigration Agent" shall include any person appointed by the Governor to act as Agent General of Immigration, or as a Sub Agent; the word "immigrant" shall mean all persons who may hereafter be introduced into this island, under and subject to the provisions of this Act; the expression "Indian Immigrant" shall mean any immigrant who shall have been introduced from the British possessions in the East Indies; the expression "Asiatic Immigrant," any immigrant who shall have been introduced from any other part of the Continent or islands of Asia, except the British possessions in the East Indies; the word "indenture" shall include all contracts of service, whether by indenture or otherwise, declared to be valid by this Act; the expression "indentured immigrant" shall mean any immigrant under such indenture who shall not have completed his industrial residence; the word "employer" shall mean the proprietor, including any body politic or corporate, company, or association interested in the cultivation of estates, or the manufacture of agricultural produce, or manager, attorney, overseer, or other person having the direction of, or the chief authority upon, any sugar, coffee, or other plantation, breeding pen, or pimento walk, on which any immigrant may be employed; the word "estate" shall mean any sugar, coffee, or other plantation, breeding pen, or pimento walk, on which any immigrant may be employed; the word "month" shall mean a calendar month. No immigrant shall be entitled to a certificate of industrial residence unless he shall have given on the whole on an average eleven months' actual service for every twelve months' service he was bound to give under indenture, or unless at the expiration of his indenture he shall enter into fresh indenture to serve for a period equal to the time he shall have deserted or absented himself; and absence, while undergoing imprisonment for any offence under this or any other Act, shall be deemed an absenting himself within the meaning of this Act; and the lessee or tenant of any estate shall, during the continuance of his lease or agreement, be deemed a proprietor within the meaning of this Act.

The Governor may appoint an Agent General of Immigration and sub agents. Their salary and emoluments.

2. The Governor may appoint fit and proper persons to be Agent General of Immigration, as also Sub Agents, to act within such limits or districts of the island as shall be specified in their respective appointments, which Agent General shall be entitled to receive a quarterly salary, not exceeding 200 *l.* per annum from the public treasury; and each Sub Agent shall be entitled to receive the sum of three shillings on the original indenture of each immigrant who shall be indentured for industrial service on any estate within the limits over which his appointment shall extend, to be paid to such Sub Agent by the employer at the time the indenture shall be entered into; and the Governor may, from time to time, remove any Agent General or Sub Agent, and appoint any other fit and proper person in his place.

3. The

3. The Governor may, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, from time to time, appoint an agent or agents at any port or ports of emigration, from which immigrants to this island may be embarked, for the purpose of inspecting, on behalf of this island, the labourers proposed to be shipped, and rejecting any who shall appear to him or them to be ineligible, under the rules and directions for his and their guidance in such respects, which he or they may, from time to time, receive from the Governor.

Also, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, agents at foreign ports for purposes of immigration.

4. Every such agent shall transmit to the Agent General of Immigration, by the vessel in which the immigrants shall be shipped for this island, and by any other ordinary means of communication, a return showing the age, as near as the same can be ascertained, of every immigrant so shipped, and such other particulars as the Governor shall from time to time direct.

Foreign agents to send returns of immigrants to Agent General.

5. The Governor may, from time to time, by proclamation or by notice, to be published in the "Gazette" by authority in this island, as also, if he shall think fit, in the "London Gazette," and in any public newspaper circulating out of this island, name the ports or places from which immigration into this Colony, within the meaning and subject to the provisions of this Act, shall be permitted, and the conditions under which such immigration may be carried on.

The Governor to fix the places from which immigration to be carried on.

6. The Governor shall make provision, so far as may be practicable, for the introduction, from time to time, of a proportionate number of immigrants of both sexes.

Provision to be made for the introduction of immigrants of both sexes.

7. In making any assignment of immigrants, it shall not be lawful for the Immigration Agent to separate husbands from wives, nor children under the age of fifteen years from their parents or natural protectors.

Husbands and wives not to be separated in assigning immigrants.

8. In case of immigrants under twelve years of age, residence in the island shall, for the purpose of completing industrial residence, be equivalent to residence under indenture (and immediately after any such immigrant shall attain his age of twelve years, he shall be liable to be indentured by the Agent General for the then residue of his term of industrial service, and to all other the privileges and obligations of an indentured immigrant), the Agent General shall fix and determine the period at which such immigrant shall have attained such his age of twelve years.

In the case of immigrants under 12 years of age, residence to be considered equivalent to industrial residence.

9. The Agent General of Immigration shall, whenever directed by the Governor, cause a notice to be published in the "Gazette" by authority (Forms Nos. 1 and 2), requiring proprietors and managers of estates to make application to him for such immigrants as they may be desirous of indenturing upon their arrival, and to notify the names and residences of each such proprietor, the estate on which he is desirous to indenture such immigrants, the number of immigrants wanted, and the particular description of the building or buildings in which such immigrants are to be located, and the country or place from which he is desirous they should be introduced, and to express the willingness of such proprietor to accept the services of so many of such immigrants as shall be allotted to him, not exceeding the number applied for upon the terms and conditions of this Act, immediately after their arrival, or to forfeit and pay to the Agent General of Immigration for the time being a sum equal to the whole amount he would be required to pay, if after their introduction the immigrants allotted to him should be indentured to him according to the provisions of this Act, all which applications shall be by the Agent General submitted to the Governor and the Executive Committee, with a view to arrangements being made for the introduction of the required number of immigrants, or as many thereof as shall be practicable.

Agent General, when directed by the Governor, to require applications from parties desirous of obtaining immigrants.

10. No immigrant shall be indentured to the lessee, or the tenant of any estate held under any lease or agreement, unless the owner of such estate, by himself or his attorney, shall be a party to such indenture; and the contract for payment of the expense of introducing such immigrant, or the lease or agreement, shall have a longer period to run than the term for which such immigrant shall be indentured, or unless such lessee shall enter into such separate security, to provide for the payment of such expense, and for the location and maintenance of such immigrants, as may be approved of by the Governor and Executive Committee.

No immigrant to be indentured to a lessee or tenant of an estate, except the owner of such estate be party to indenture.

11. The Governor may, from time to time, fix and determine the average cost of importation of each immigrant of the several classes contemplated by this Act, and in fixing such cost, shall include therein a sum sufficient, in his judgment, to cover the expenses of advances prior to embarkation of immigrants who may die before arrival in this island, or immediately, after their arrival; and before their services can be assigned, the passage-money, salaries, and incidental expenses of interpreters, and all other expenses reasonably incidental to the introduction, protection, and care of immigrants: Provided, that passage money shall be paid only for such immigrants as shall be landed alive in this island, and that in case it shall at any time appear to the Governor that he shall have fixed the average cost of importation of any class of immigrants at too high a sum, then he shall have power to remit the whole, or any portion of the excess; and the Agent General of Immigration shall forbear to require or enforce payment of the excess so remitted on any futher instalments to fall due, and shall allow any excess already paid to go in reduction of future instalments.

The Governor to fix the cost of importation of each immigrant.

Proviso.

Passage money only to be paid for immigrants landed alive.

12. If any immigrant arriving in this island from Madeira, the Azores, the Canaries, or the Cape de Verd Islands, or from any part of Europe, or of the West Indies, or of the United States, or of the British Provinces of North America, or from any port, or place, from

Contracts when made out of the island to be valid when countersigned by Agent General.

Appendix, No. 12.

from which immigration, within the meaning and subject to the provisions of this Act, shall have been permitted as aforesaid, shall, before his arrival, have contracted with any person to perform service in this island, such contract shall, when approved of and countersigned by the Immigration Agent, and subject to such alterations as the said agent may, with the consent of the parties, have made therein, be valid in this island for the full period named in such contract, not exceeding three years: Provided, that except as hereinafter-mentioned, no such contract shall be so approved and countersigned, unless it shall have been signed with the names or marks of the contracting parties, and purport to be attested by a justice of the peace, whose signature shall be attested by a notary public, or attested by some notary public, in the first instance, or British Consul, or by some other person approved by, or acting under authority of Her Majesty's Government, one of whom shall certify that the parties entered into such contract voluntarily, and with a full understanding of its meaning; nor unless the Immigration Agent shall be satisfied that the immigration has been carried on in accordance with all existing regulations of the Imperial Government, and of the Legislature of this island.

Proviso.

Contract not legally executed may be declared valid on report to the Governor.

13. If the Immigration Agent shall not be so satisfied, or shall find the contract not to be so signed and attested as aforesaid, he shall report the same to the Governor, who may, if he shall think fit, notwithstanding such report, direct the said Immigration Agent to approve and countersign such contract, in manner aforesaid.

Agent to provide food and lodging for immigrants until indentured.

14. If any immigrant, on arrival, shall not be immediately provided with employment, it shall be the duty of the Immigration Agent, and he is hereby authorised, to provide him with food and lodging at the expense of the island, until he shall be indentured, which expenses shall be re-paid by the person to whom such immigrant shall be indentured, unless the Governor shall dispense therewith.

The Governor to make regulations respecting food and clothing of immigrants.

15. The Governor may make regulations, which shall be legally binding upon employers, respecting the food and clothing to be provided for immigrants during their first three months of service, and respecting the lodging, medicine, and medical care of immigrants, also during the continuance of their indentures, and, respecting any other matters necessary for carrying this Act into effect, all which regulations shall be published in the "Gazette" by authority.

Immigrant to receive allowance during illness.

16. Every immigrant, in the absence of any express agreement to the contrary, shall during illness receive, instead of wages, such allowances as the state of his health may require, or as may be directed by any regulation to be issued by the Governor and published as aforesaid.

Register to be kept by Agent General of Immigration of immigrants introduced under certain Acts.

17. The Agent General of Immigration shall keep a register, (Form No. 3,) for separate classes of immigrants to be introduced into this island by the means of the undisposed and unappropriated residue of the sum of 100,000 *l.* authorised to be raised under the provisions of the Acts 15 Vict., chap. 39; 16 Vict., chap. 20; and 16 Vict., chap. 25, distinguishing each class by a particular alphabetical letter, and shall insert therein the names of all immigrants of each class arriving in the island, and shall number every immigrant by a particular number, commencing with the number one, and proceeding by regular numerical progression; and shall distinguish therein, under different heads, the alphabetical letter, number, name, age, sex, and country of every such immigrant, and the time when, the place from which, and the vessel in which such immigrant shall have arrived, and the cost of the passage, and average sum payable in respect of every such immigrant by his employer, and whether such immigrant will or will not be entitled to a return passage, and the name of the employer or other person at whose expense such labourer shall have been introduced, and of the employer to whom he shall be indentured on his arrival; and of the amount of monies, if any, which may have been advanced to such immigrant previous to his arrival in this island, and which is to be repaid by him out of his wages in this island, and such further particulars as the Governor shall direct; and shall furnish to each sub-agent full particulars, in respect of every such immigrant located in or transferred to his district, for the Government of such sub-agent; and shall also keep a register of immigrants to be otherwise introduced into this island under the provisions of this Act, similar in all other respects to the foregoing register, except that the immigrants to be inserted in the register now directed to be kept, shall be distinguished by the same alphabetical letter, but numbered with a particular number, commencing with a number next in order to the highest number by which any immigrant shall have been distinguished in the register first hereby directed to be kept, full particulars whereof shall also be, from time to time, furnished to the different sub-agents, in respect of all such last-named immigrants to be from time to time located in or be transferred to their respective districts.

Agent General may indenture immigrants other than African, Asiatic, or Indian, for three years.

18. In case any immigrant, other than an African, Asiatic, or Indian immigrant, shall, before embarkation, have consented to enter, upon his arrival into this island, into a contract of service with any employer whom the Immigration Agent may select, for a period not exceeding three years, such consent being shown either by certificate of the Government Emigration Agent, at the port of embarkation, or by an agreement, signed by the immigrant, and witnessed by such notary, consul, or other officer, as hereinbefore mentioned, the Immigration Agent may indenture such immigrant to any employer whom the Governor may think fit, for such period as aforesaid: Provided always, that no such assignment shall take

Proviso.

take effect until the employer and the immigrant, or the Immigration Agent on his behalf, shall have executed an indenture in the form annexed (Form No. 4), or in such other form as may be approved by the Governor, nor until such employer shall have also entered into contract for payment of the costs of importation, as required by this Act. Appendix, No. 12.

19. All immigrants, other than Asiatic or African immigrants, or immigrants for whom Government shall not be bound to furnish any return passage, or make commutation in lieu thereof, shall be entitled, after having resided three years in this island, to demand from the Immigration Agent a certificate of industrial residence, unless it shall be recorded in the office of the said Immigration Agent, or shall otherwise appear to his satisfaction, that such immigrant has deserted or absented himself from service, otherwise than from illness, while under indenture for periods amounting together, during the three years, to more than three months, in which case he shall not be entitled to such certificate, unless and until such immigrant shall have further served under indenture for the period of such absence or desertion. All immigrants not entitled to a return passage to receive certificate of industrial residence after three years' service.

20. It shall be competent to the Agent General of Immigration to assign any African, Asiatic, or Indian immigrant, who shall, before embarkation, have consented to enter, upon his arrival in this island, into a contract of service with any employer whom the Immigration Agent may, with the sanction of the Governor, select for a period of five years. African, Asiatic, or Indian Immigrants may be indentured for five years.

21. No Asiatic, Indian, or African immigrant, who shall have deserted or absented himself from service, otherwise than from illness, while under indenture, for periods amounting together, in the five years, to more than five months, shall be entitled to a certificate of industrial residence until he shall have further served, under indenture, for the period of such absence or desertion. Such immigrant to make good time of absence or desertion before receiving certificate of industrial residence.

22. And whereas the Governor General of India, in council, has given his assent to the emigration to this island of Indian immigrants under engagements to render industrial service for a period of ten years, in consideration whereof they are to be provided with a passage back to their own country at the expense of the island: And whereas Her Majesty's Government deem it expedient to provide for the reduction, upon certain conditions, of the said period of industrial residence: Be it therefore enacted, that every Indian immigrant who shall have acquired a certificate of industrial residence, under the provisions of this Act, shall be entitled, at the expiration of ten years from the time of his arrival, to be provided with a back passage to the port from which he sailed at the expense of the island, or to a grant of land, as provided by this Act, in lieu thereof, if Her Majesty's Government shall be pleased to forego such right in consideration of such equivalent: Provided such immigrant shall, after the expiration of his first five years of industrial service, enter into indentures of service for a further period of five years, each indenture being of not less than one year's duration, or shall pay to the Immigration Agent the sum of 2*l.* 10*s.* for each year during which he shall not have been under indenture. Indian Immigrants to be provided with a return passage, at the end of ten years; or to a grant of land, at their option. Proviso.

23. Any African or Asiatic immigrant who shall have completed his first five years' term of industrial residence may, if he shall consent to do so, postpone his right to a certificate of industrial residence until he shall have been re-indentured for a further period of five years, each indenture being of not less than one year's duration, or shall have paid to the Immigration Agent the sum of 2*l.* 10*s.* for each such year during which he shall not have been re-indentured, which shall entitle him, so soon as he shall have acquired a right to a certificate of industrial residence, to a grant of land as hereinafter provided. African or Asiatic Immigrants may, at their option, be re-indentured for a further term of five years, receiving a grant of land.

24. The Agent General shall be bound to re-indenture such Indian, African, and Asiatic immigrants among employers only at whose charge they shall have been originally introduced, and who shall be desirous of their services, and the Agent General shall re-indenture to each original employer the same, or as nearly as may be the same, number of such immigrants as may have lived to serve him to the end of the first five years of industrial service, subject to the provisions herein contained; each such re-indentured immigrant shall, as far as practicable, be entitled to select the original employer unto whom he shall be re-indentured, and no such employer shall be required to make any further payment to the Agent General for the services of any such re-indentured immigrant; and every such re-indentured immigrant and his employer shall, until such immigrant shall have entitled himself to his certificate of industrial residence, continue subject and liable to the provisions of this Act relating to indentured immigrants. Such re-indentures to be made among the employers at whose expense they were introduced.

25. No Indian, African, or Asiatic immigrant, who after the expiration of his first five years of industrial residence shall be further indentured, and shall absent himself, or desert from service for more, on an average, than one month in a year, shall be entitled to a certificate of industrial residence, until he shall have further served, under indenture, for the period of such absence or desertion. Time lost by absence or desertion during term of re-indenture to be made good.

26. If the employer of any indentured immigrant shall die, or if the estate mentioned in the contract of such immigrants shall be determined or forfeited, alienated or devised, the person who shall become entitled to such estate shall be entitled to the services of such immigrant during the residue of the term of his indenture, and to all the privileges and advantages of an original employer at whose charge immigrants shall have been introduced: Provided always, that for the purpose of deciding such disputes as are herein mentioned, between an immigrant and his employer, the person who is actually in possession of such estate shall be deemed to be entitled thereto, but the services of an indentured immigrant If the employer of any immigrants shall die, the person succeeding to the estate to be entitled to the services of such immigrants.

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may be transferred, with his consent, to any other estate belonging to the same employer: Provided, that a memorandum of such transfer shall be endorsed on his contract, and signed by the Immigration Agent.

Proviso.

Agent may cancel indentures in certain cases,

27. The Immigration Agent may, with the sanction of the Governor, cancel the indenture of any immigrant, in respect of whom any sum of money payable by his employer under this Act shall remain unpaid for a period of three months after it shall have become due, or shall remain unpaid for a period of one month after a distress warrant shall have issued to enforce payment for want of goods and chattels whereon to levy.

and for the purpose of re-indenturing.

28. The Immigration Agent may, with the sanction of the Governor, at the request of any employer and immigrant, cancel any indenture, for the purpose of re-indenturing any immigrant.

Immigrants whose indenture shall have been cancelled may be re-indentured.

29. Any immigrant, whose indenture shall have been cancelled under any of the foregoing provisions of this Act, may, without the consent of any such immigrant, be re-indentured to some other employer, by the Immigration Agent, for any period not exceeding the then unexpired period of such indenture.

Hours of labour of immigrants defined.

30. Every indentured immigrant, in the absence of any express agreement to the contrary, and except in case of illness, shall be bound to work upon, or in the service of the estate mentioned in his indenture, for nine hours of each day (Sundays, Good Friday, New Year's Day, and Christmas Day only excepted).

Employers of immigrants to make returns annually.

31. The employer of any immigrant shall, on or before the 30th day of October in each year, make a return (Form No. 5) to the 30th September preceding, of the names and numbers of all such immigrants as have been in his employment at any time during the year last past, together with the date and cause (as far as the same may be known) of all deaths, and the number of births of the children of such immigrants, and the names of all immigrants who may have left the estate during such preceding year, to the Agent General, who shall insert the particulars thereof in the register of immigrants hereinbefore required to be kept by him; and the Agent General shall, at the end of every year, terminating on the 30th September, furnish the Governor with an abstract return, in duplicate, of the number, sex, increase, and decrease of all immigrants in this island who shall have been introduced under the provisions of this Act, and who shall not have completed their period of industrial service, or in the case of Indian immigrants (or of African or Asiatic immigrants consenting to be re-indentured) shall not have completed a residence of ten years in this island, and also the number of each sex arrived within the previous twelve months, the ships in which they arrived, and the date of arrival, such return to be furnished on or before the 10th November then following; and the Governor shall cause the same to be laid before the Legislative Council and Assembly, at their session, then holding, or to be holden next thereafter.

Agent General to make yearly returns to the Governor.

Certificate of industrial residence may be demanded after certain service.

32. Subject as hereinbefore mentioned, any Asiatic, African, or other immigrant who shall have served five years in this island under indenture, or who, after his indenture for five years shall have expired, shall have served a further period of five years, or paid the money equivalent in lieu of service, or any Indian immigrant who shall have served ten years, or, after the expiration of his indenture for five years, served a further period of five years, or paid the money equivalent in lieu of service, may demand a certificate of industrial residence (Form No. 6).

Certificate of industrial residence to confer the privileges of naturalisation.

33. Every immigrant born out of the British dominions who shall have obtained or become entitled to a certificate of industrial residence, shall immediately thereafter become entitled to all the privileges of a natural-born British subject within this island.

Immigrants who have received certificate of industrial residence may demand a passport.

34. Every immigrant who shall have received, or shall be entitled to such certificate of industrial residence, shall be at liberty to abandon service, and may demand from the Immigration Agent a passport (Form No. 7) which, as well as the said certificate, shall be signed by the Immigration Agent, and given gratis, but no immigrant shall depart from this island without such passport.

Every Indian immigrant on production of passport to receive a return passage.

Proviso.

35. Every Indian immigrant shall, on production of his passport, be entitled, ten years after his arrival, to a back passage at the expense of the island to the port in India from which he emigrated: Provided he shall claim such back passage 18 months before the expiration of 10 years, unless Her Majesty's Government shall be pleased to forego such right, in consideration of such Indian immigrant being provided with a grant of land in lieu of back passage, under the provisions of this Act.

The Governor may exempt immigrant from industrial residence in certain cases.

36. The Governor may authorise the Immigration Agent to grant a certificate of exemption from industrial residence (Form, No. 8,) to any immigrant who, from sickness, accident, or other cause, shall appear to him incapable of labour, and may send any such Indian immigrant back at the expense of the island to the port in India from which he emigrated.

Immigrants entitled to return passage to be paid allowances for detention.

37. Every Indian emigrant who shall have become entitled to, and shall have claimed a back passage, shall be entitled to demand and receive out of the public treasury, the sum of 1 *l.* 4 *s.* for every six months he shall be detained in this island after he shall become entitled thereto.

Agent may enter upon estates where immigrants employed.

38. The Immigration Agent may at any time enter upon any estate where any immigrants shall be employed, and may inspect the state and condition of such immigrants, and if requisite

requisite require a muster of such immigrants, or any of them, as may then be on such estate, and shall at such periods as the Governor shall direct, visit and inspect every estate whereon immigrants shall be employed.

He is empowered to hear and determine complaints between employer and immigrant.

39. The Immigration Agent may hear, examine, and adjudicate upon any dispute, or claim, between immigrants, or during the continuance of any such indenture as aforesaid, between immigrants and their employers, and shall possess and exercise, in respect of any matter affecting any immigrant, all power given by this or any other law of this island, to any two or more justices of the peace; and in case any immigrant shall have been ill-used by his employer, or in case of neglect of duty or breach of contract on the part of any employer, may, in addition to any other penalty or forfeiture, with the sanction of the Governor, by notice in the "Gazette" by authority, cancel the contract of any such immigrant.

Immigrants found off the estate during working hours may be apprehended without warrant.

40. It shall be lawful for the employer of any indentured immigrant, or for any servant of such employer, or auxiliary constable, and the duty of any police constable, to apprehend, without warrant, any African, Indian, or Asiatic immigrant, who may be found during the ordinary hours of work off the estate in respect of which his services shall be due, without a written ticket of leave signed by his employer, and to cause such immigrant to be taken back to such estate.

Employer to report desertion of immigrants to nearest police station.

41. Every employer of any immigrant shall, within 24 hours from the time at which any immigrant shall have deserted from any estate, report such desertion at the nearest police station, stating in such report the distinguishing letter, and number, and name of such immigrant, with the date of his indenture, and any other information likely to facilitate the apprehension of such deserter; and it shall thereupon become the duty of the police to circulate such report among their several stations throughout the island; and every employer who shall fail to comply with the provisions of this clause, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding 5 *l.*

Immigrants found five miles from their estate without a ticket may be apprehended without warrant,

42. It shall be lawful for the Immigration Agent, or any police constable, or person enrolled as an auxiliary constable, to stop, without a warrant, any African, Indian, or Asiatic immigrant, who shall at any time (except Sundays, or the holydays mentioned in this Act) be found at a distance of more than five miles from the estate in respect of which his services may be due; and if any immigrant so found shall fail to produce, upon being required to do so, a certificate of exemption or of industrial residence, or a written ticket of leave signed by his employer, to take such immigrant back to the estate in respect of which his services may be due; or if he shall refuse to disclose the name of such estate, then to take him forthwith before some neighbouring justice of the peace; and such justice shall forthwith inquire into the case, and unless he shall be satisfied that such immigrant has completed such residence, or obtained such exemption as aforesaid, or that he is absent from the estate in respect of which his services shall be due, with the leave of his employer, shall make order for his immediate committal to the nearest prison, not being a county gaol, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding 14 days.

and committed to nearest prison.

Mile money to be paid to person apprehending immigrants.

43. Every policeman, or auxiliary constable, or other person not being a servant of the employer, shall be entitled to demand and receive from the employer of every immigrant brought back to the estate, in respect of which his services shall be due, the sum of 6 *d.* for each mile the policeman, auxiliary constable, or other person, shall be obliged to travel in taking him back to the estate, not exceeding 5 *s.* in the whole, which the employer shall be entitled to deduct from the wages of such immigrant.

Penalty for omitting to make the returns required by this Act. and for obstructing agent.

44. Every employer of immigrants who shall omit to make the annual return hereinbefore required, and every person who shall by any act or omission obstruct the Immigration Agent in entering upon any plantation where any immigrant shall be employed, or in inquiring into the state and condition of any immigrant, shall, on conviction thereof by summary process before any two or more justices of the peace, forfeit and pay such sum not exceeding 20 *l.* for every such offence as the convicting justices shall direct.

Immigrant absenting himself from work to forfeit wages, and on conviction to be imprisoned.

45. Every indentured immigrant who, during the continuance of his indenture, shall without lawful excuse absent himself from his work, shall forfeit his claim to all wages and allowances for the time during which he shall so absent himself, and on being convicted of such absence before any two or more justices of the peace, he shall for every such offence be imprisoned in the nearest prison, not being a county gaol, and kept to hard labour for such term, not exceeding 14 days, as shall be directed by such justices.

Immigrant damaging property of his employer by negligence may be imprisoned on conviction.

46. If any immigrant shall by negligence or improper conduct lose, throw away, endanger, or damage the property of his employer, or shall endanger such property by a careless or improper use of fire, or shall cruelly ill-use any cattle or other live stock belonging to his employer, or intrusted to his care, or by negligence occasion to be cruelly ill-used any such cattle or live stock, every such offender on conviction shall be punished by imprisonment, with or without hard labour, not exceeding 30 days.

Certain other offences by immigrants punishable by imprisonment.

47. Any immigrant who shall falsely or fraudulently pretend that he has completed his industrial residence, or who shall use, give, or lend any certificate or passport for any fraudulent purpose, or who shall wilfully counterfeit or alter any such certificate or passport, shall, on conviction thereof before any two or more justices of the peace, be imprisoned in such place of confinement as aforesaid, with hard labour, for such term, not exceeding three months, as the convicting justices shall direct.

Appendix, No. 12.

Penalty for harbouring or concealing immigrants under contract.

48. Any person who shall knowingly harbour, or receive into his employment, any immigrant then under indenture to any other person, shall, on conviction thereof before any two or more justices of the peace, forfeit and pay to Her Majesty such sum not exceeding 20 *l.* as to such justices shall seem fit, and shall pay to the employer the sum of 4 *s.* for each day during which such immigrant shall have been harboured or employed; complaint of such harbouring or employment being made by the immigration agent, or by the employer of such immigrant, at any time within 12 months after the offence shall have been committed: Provided, that if any employer shall state upon oath, before a justice of the peace, that he has reasonable cause to suspect that any such immigrant is harboured, concealed, or employed on the premises of any person, such justice of the peace may grant a warrant to search for such immigrant, and bring him, and the person by whom such immigrant may be harboured, concealed, or employed, before any two justices, to be dealt with as provided by this Act.

Proviso.

Masters of vessels harbouring immigrants with intention of taking them off liable to penalty.

49. Every master or other person in charge of any vessel who shall knowingly receive or harbour on board of such vessel any immigrant who shall not have duly obtained his passport with the intention of carrying him out of this island, or any person who shall aid and abet the departure of any such immigrant, shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds for each and every such immigrant whom he shall have so received, harboured, aided, or abetted.

How offences under this Act to be tried.

50. All offences and breaches of any stipulation or agreement contained in any indenture, on the part of either employer or immigrant, for which no punishment is otherwise provided by this or any other Act, may be heard and determined by and before any two justices of the peace, and on conviction shall be punishable, in case of any employer, by fine not exceeding five pounds, and in default of payment, by imprisonment not exceeding one month, and in case of any immigrant, by imprisonment with or without hard labour not exceeding one month.

Certain documents under this Act declared evidence without further proof,

51. Every indenture, contract, document, or other proceeding, or any copy thereof, or any extract from the register directed to be kept by the Agent General, certified by or purporting to bear the signature of any Immigration Agent, shall be received as *primâ facie* evidence of the original, and of the truth of the contents thereof, without further proof.

and exempted from stamp duty.

52. All appointments, documents, and legal instruments required or made evidence by this Act shall be exempted from stamp duty.

How penalties under this Act to be recovered.

53. All penalties and forfeitures imposed by this Act may be sued for and recovered by the Immigration Agent in the name of the Queen in a summary manner before two or more justices, and the aggregate amount of penalties in respect of any number of immigrants under indenture to the same employer under one information, and all monies, penalties, and forfeitures awarded to be paid by any employer may be recovered by distress and sale of any goods and chattels to be found on the estate on which a landlord might distrain for rent in arrear, and shall not be repleviable except under an order of a judge of the Supreme Court, to be made upon affidavit sworn to before a justice of the peace or a Commissioner of the Supreme Court, disclosing such special circumstances as in his opinion would, if proved on the trial of such replevin, warrant a verdict in the plaintiff's favour; and every agent of immigration who shall enforce any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to have been acting as and entitled to the protection afforded by law to a justice of the peace acting in the execution of his office; and all pecuniary penalties, when recovered, shall be paid over to the Receiver General to the credit of the new Immigration Fund: Provided, that no goods so distrained upon shall be sold before the lapse of fourteen days after distress made; provided also, that if any person, otherwise than by the authority of the person making such distress, shall remove, during any part of the fourteen days last aforesaid, any of the goods so distrained on from the premises whereon such distress shall have been made, he shall be liable to a further penalty of equal amount to that for which such distress shall have been made.

Proviso.

Persons apprehending deserters to be rewarded.

54. The convicting justices, in cases of conviction for absence or desertion, may award to any police constable, or auxiliary constable, or other person who shall have been active in the apprehension of any immigrant, such sum, or sums, not exceeding sixpence for each mile he shall have had to travel from the place where the immigrant shall have been apprehended, to the residence of the nearest justice, not exceeding, in the whole, five shillings for each immigrant apprehended, and grant a certificate to each constable, or other person, of the sum awarded to him, signed by themselves, and countersigned by the clerk of the peace, or magistrate's clerk, which shall be payable, upon presentation, at the island treasury.

On complaints between employer and immigrant, the justices may award the whole or part only of wages claimed;

55. Upon any complaint made by any employer or immigrant, the justices by whom such complaint shall be heard may, in addition to any other order made on such complaint, award to such immigrant the whole, or such proportion, of the wages of any such immigrant appearing to be due to him, as such justices shall think reasonable, or shall authorise the employer to retain the whole, or any specified portion of such wages.

and may abate a proportion of wages for absence or neglect.

56. Upon any complaint by any immigrant for non-payment of wages, or damages for breach of contract or misconduct on the part of his employer, it shall be lawful for the justices to make a proportionate abatement out of any sum to be awarded as the wages or damages

damages due to such immigrant, for such days or times as he shall be proved to have been, without the consent of his employer, absent from, or neglecting his service or work, and also for the value of any damage done to the property of his employer, by, or through the misconduct, or negligence, or carelessness of any such immigrant.

Except where otherwise directed, all complaints between employer and immigrant must be made within 30 days.

57. Except where otherwise directed, no complaint by any employer against any immigrant, or by any immigrant against any employer, shall be entertained, unless the same shall be preferred within 30 days after the occurrence of the subject matter of such complaint; and upon the hearing of any such complaint no abatement or deduction shall be made from the amount determined to be due to either party by reason of any misconduct of which such party may have been guilty at any time, not exceeding 30 days before the institution of such complaint.

Officers of courts to make return to Agent General of convicted immigrants.

58. Whenever any indentured immigrant shall be sentenced by any court of criminal jurisdiction, or by any justices, under any law in force, to any term of imprisonment, it shall be the duty of the proper officer of such court or justices, within the period of one calendar month from the date of sentence, to forward to the Agent General a return setting forth, as accurately as may be, the distinguishing letter and number, and name of such immigrant, the name of the estate on which he is indentured, the offence of which he shall have been convicted, and the term of imprisonment to which he shall have been sentenced.

Employer of immigrants under 15th Vict. c. 39, and 16th Vict., cc. 20 and 25, to contract for the payment of two-thirds of the cost of importing same.

59. The employer of every immigrant who shall be introduced by means of monies to be raised under the provisions of the before-mentioned Acts, 15th Vict., c. 39; 16th Vict. c. 20; and 16 Vict. c. 25, shall, at the time of the execution of the indenture of service, enter into a separate contract with the Agent General of Immigration, engaging to pay to the Agent General or sub-agent of the district for the time being a sum of money to be ascertained and inserted in such contract (Form No. 9), and which shall be composed of a sum equal to two-thirds of the average cost of importation of an immigrant from the place or country from which the immigrant indentured to him shall have been introduced, and two-thirds of the cost of food and lodgings, if any incurred, by six half-yearly instalments, if the indenture shall be for three years, or, if for five years, by ten half-yearly instalments, on the 10th March and the 10th September in each year, the first payment of which instalments shall be made on the 10th March or 10th September, whichever shall first happen after the expiration of three months from the date of such indenture.

Employer of immigrants imported under this Act to contract for the payment of the whole cost of importing same.

60. The employer of every immigrant who shall be introduced by means of monies to be raised under this Act shall, at the time of the execution of the indenture of service, enter into a separate contract (Form No. 9) with the Agent General of Immigration, engaging to pay to the Agent General, or sub-agent of the district for the time being, a sum of money to be ascertained and named in such contract by the Immigration Agent, and which shall be composed of a sum equal to the whole average cost of importation of immigrants from the place or country from which the immigrants indentured to him shall have been introduced, and the whole of the expenses, if any, incurred for food and lodging previously to such indenture, with interest at the rate of 6 *l.* per centum per annum, by six half-yearly instalments, if the indenture shall be for three years, or, if for five years, by ten half-yearly instalments, on the 10th March and 10th September of each year, the first payment of which instalments shall be made on the 10th day of March or 10th day of September, whichever shall first happen after the expiration of three months from the date of such indenture: Provided, that the employer may at his option pay down the whole amount he is by this or the preceding clause required to discharge, with a rebate of interest thereon, in which case the Agent General shall dispense with the execution of any contract, and endorse upon the indenture of service, or any transfer thereof, that the cost of introduction hath been fully paid.

Proviso.

When indenture *cancelled, the contract for payment of the cost of importation to be also* cancelled.

61. Whenever any indenture shall be cancelled, with or without the assent of any employer, and the immigrant shall be re-indentured, the contract entered into by the employer upon the payment of whatever proportion of the cost of importation of such immigrant as shall be then due, including the proportion of any current instalment to the day on which the indenture shall be cancelled, shall be also cancelled in respect of all further instalments to fall due thereon; and the employer to whom the immigrant shall be re-indentured shall enter into separate contract for payment as aforesaid of all further instalments, and so *toties quoties* upon every re-indenture of any such immigrant until the whole of the instalments shall have been satisfied.

Where husband and wife or children included in one indenture, one contract for repayment to be executed.

62. Whenever any husband and wife, or husband and wife and child or children, shall be included in one indenture, one contract shall be entered into for payment of the aggregate amount of two-thirds of the cost, or the whole cost, as the case shall require, of their introduction in the manner before directed, and food and lodging if incurred by the Agent General.

When immigrants introduced at expense of employer, contract of repayment to be dispensed with.

Proviso.

63. The Immigration Agent shall dispense with the execution of any contract for payment of expenses in respect of immigrants introduced at the expense of the employer, and shall endorse upon the contract of service that the cost of introduction hath been fully paid and discharged by the employer, and upon the transfer at any time of such services, with the assent of the parties, he shall make a similar endorsement: Provided nevertheless, that the employers of such immigrants, and the immigrants themselves, shall be amenable to the provisions of this Act in all other respects in which they shall be applicable to indentured immigrants and their employers.

Appendix, No. 12.

Employer to pay agent the advance to immigrants before embarkation.

64. The employer of any indentured immigrant shall pay to the Immigration Agent the amount mentioned in such indenture, as advanced to such immigrant previous to his embarkation, either by an immediate payment, or by half-yearly instalments, at the rate of 1*s.* per week, at his option, and shall be entitled to deduct the same by weekly instalments from the wages of such immigrant; and the moneys so paid to the Immigration Agent shall be paid by him into the island treasury, to the credit of the Immigration Fund.

Proprietor or manager applying for immigrants and refusing to receive them liable to certain forfeitures.

Proviso.

65. Every proprietor or manager who shall have made any application for immigrants, and who shall afterwards refuse or neglect to enter into the indenture and contract hereby required, shall forfeit and pay to the Immigration Agent for the time being, for every immigrant allotted to him, whom he shall refuse or neglect to indenture, a sum equal to the amount he would have had to enter into contract to repay if he had executed such indenture; and the whole amount shall be immediately enforceable: Provided, that the Governor may remit or mitigate any such forfeiture; and every person deputed to manage any estate, under power of attorney recorded in the Secretary's office, shall be deemed the authorised agent of his principal for the purposes of this Act, in the absence of express provision to the contrary in such power, but without prejudice to any right of action of such principal, against any such agent who shall have contravened or acted without or against his instructions.

Moneys payable to agent in respect of immigrants under this Act declared a first charge on the estate;

and may be enforced by warrant.

66. All moneys payable to the Immigration Agent, in respect of any indentured immigrant, or for refusal or neglect to execute an indenture under the provisions of this Act, shall be a first charge on the estate in respect of which such immigrant shall be under indenture, or would have been under indenture, but for such refusal or neglect, and may be enforced by warrant of distress and sale (Forms Nos. 10 and 11) to be directed by the Agent General, or any sub-agent for the district, to any policeman of the parish where the same shall require to be executed, without any previous information or summons; and the aggregate amount of moneys in respect of any number of immigrants recoverable by distress warrant, to be executed upon the same estate, may be included in one distress warrant.

"The 100,000*l.* Immigration Loan New Sinking Fund" defined.

67. All moneys which shall be received from the employers of immigrants introduced by means of moneys raised under the provisions of the before-mentioned Acts, 15 Vict., c. 39; 16 Vict., c. 20; and 16 Vict., c. 25, shall by the Agent General be paid one week after receipt, to the Receiver General, and be by him carried to a separate account to be called "The One Hundred Thousand pounds Immigration Loan New Sinking Fund," and the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall have power from time to time, by warrant under his hand, to direct the Receiver General to remit the whole or such portion as he shall think fit, of the moneys at any time standing to the credit of the said fund, to be invested by the agents appointed or to be appointed under the provisions of the said Acts, in such of the public funds of Great Britain, in such manner, and in the names of such persons as the Lord High Treasurer, or the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty Treasury, or any three of them, may from time to time direct, and as part of the sinking fund thereby established for the gradual redemption of the principal moneys raised or to be raised under those Acts.

"The New Immigration Fund" defined.

68. All moneys which shall be received from the employers of immigrants, introduced by means of moneys raised under the provisions of this Act, shall be paid one week after receipt, as received by the Agent General, to the Receiver General, and shall be by him carried to a separate account, to be called "The New Immigration Fund."

The Governor may from time to time raise money for purposes of immigration.

69. The Governor may, with the advice of the Executive Committee, from time to time, as shall be deemed expedient, borrow and raise in this island or in Great Britain, such sums of money not exceeding in the whole the sum of 150,000*l.*, as shall be required to be raised for the purpose of defraying, in the first instance, the expense of introducing immigrants into this island, under and subject to the provisions of this Act, and shall have power to appoint an agent or agents in Great Britain for the purpose of raising and securing the repayment of moneys there borrowed.

How moneys to be borrowed for the purposes of this Act to be secured.

70. The moneys borrowed in this island, and repayable here, shall be secured by bond, debenture, or otherwise, to be signed by any two members of the Executive Committee and countersigned by the Receiver General; and the moneys borrowed in Great Britain, and repayable there, shall be secured by bond, debenture, or otherwise, to be signed by the agent, or if more than one agent shall be appointed, then by at least two agents to be appointed as aforesaid; and such bonds or debentures shall be in such form as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, or such agent or agents, shall determine, and shall be transferable and negotiable, and be made redeemable, seven years at farthest, after the date thereof; and every such bond or debenture shall be drawn for a sum not less than 200*l.* sterling, and shall bear interest at a yearly rate, not exceeding 6*l.* in the 100*l.*, and which interest shall by such bond or debenture, if drawn in this island, be made payable half-yearly at the island treasury, or if drawn in Great Britain, be made payable half-yearly at some place in London to be therein named.

Debentures lost or destroyed may be renewed.

71. In case any bond or debenture shall be lost or destroyed, or be defaced, the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, if the same shall be payable in this island, or the agent, or if there shall be more than one agent, any two agents, if the same shall be payable in Great Britain, may renew any such bond or debenture, by substituting therefor a copy, in all respects of the lost, destroyed, or defaced bond or debenture, except the signatures

signatures to be attached thereto, upon satisfactory indemnity being given in case of the production of any bond or debenture alleged to have been lost or mislaid, against any loss, damage, or expense to be incurred, in making or resisting payment of the original bond or debenture; or in case of a defaced bond or debenture, upon the delivery up of the same to be cancelled, and which defaced and cancelled bonds or debentures shall be carefully preserved.

All sums raised under this Act to be carried to the "New Immigration Fund."

72. All moneys to be so raised, and the interest thereon, shall be secured upon, and be the only charge upon the fund to arise from the repayment of the costs of introduction of immigrants under the provisions of this Act, and the moneys so repaid shall be carried to the credit of "The New Immigration Fund" account.

The credit of the island pledged to the redemption of such loans. Proviso.

73. That the credit of this island shall stand pledged for the repayment of any loan to be raised under this Act, and the annual interest thereof: Provided always, that the revenue to be derived by the means and under the provisions of this Act, shall be in the first place solely applicable to such repayment, and in case of any deficiency after the application thereof, that such deficiency be paid and discharged by such means, and out of and from such funds as the Legislature may provide, as and when such deficiency may arise.

Receiver General to pay the interest thereon half-yearly.

74. The Receiver General shall, from time to time, pay the half-yearly interest as the same shall fall due on all bonds or debentures payable in this island, and shall remit to the agent or agents in Great Britain, at a convenient time before the same shall fall due, such moneys as shall be required for payment of the half-yearly interest to fall due and to be payable in Great Britain, such interest to be payable out of any moneys then at the credit of "The New Immigration Fund" account.

A sinking fund to be established for redemption of the principal.

75. For the gradual redemption of the principal moneys to be from time to time raised under the authority of this Act, there shall be established a sinking fund, to which sinking fund there shall be carried and appropriated in each year succeeding that in which any loan shall be contracted, a sum equal to at least one-sixth part or share of the principal money borrowed; and the Receiver General, under warrant from the Governor, shall annually remit such amount to the agent or agents in Great Britain, to be invested in the public funds of Great Britain, in such manner as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall direct, such remittance to be made out of any moneys then at the credit of "The New Immigration Fund" account.

"The Immigrants' Colonization Return Passage Fund," how to be established.

76. For the purpose of raising a fund to meet the expense of a return passage, or the permanent colonization in this island of Indian immigrants who shall entitle themselves to claim a return passage to the ports from whence they embarked, if Her Majesty's Government shall insist that a return passage shall be provided for every Indian immigrant claiming the same, or if Her Majesty's Government shall forego the right to a return passage, then for the permanent colonization of all Indian immigrants, and also of all African and Asiatic immigrants who, by having served for a further period of time, or paid a money equivalent in lieu, shall have entitled themselves to grants of land under the provisions of this Act, it shall be the duty of the Agent General of Immigration, on or before the 10th day of November in each year, to furnish to the Receiver General, and also to the Governor, a return showing, as far as practicable, the total number of immigrants of all classes introduced by means of moneys raised under the provisions of the Acts before mentioned, and of this Act, within the previous 10 years alive in the island on the preceding 30th September, and thereupon the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall by his warrant direct the Receiver General to set apart and carry a sum equal to the sum of 20*s.* for every immigrant who shall appear by such return to have been alive in this island on that day in each such year, out of any public moneys in his hands unappropriated, to the credit of an account to be opened in his books, to be called "The Immigrants' Colonization and Return Passage Fund."

Receiver General to invest such fund as directed by the Governor,

77. Upon the receipt of this warrant the Receiver General shall appropriate the amount so directed to be by him set apart, and shall carry the same to the credit of the account so directed to be opened, and shall invest the same, at interest, in such securities in this island, or in the public funds of Great Britain, and accumulate the interest to be from time to time received on such investments, when, and as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall by his warrant direct, until moneys shall be wanted for the purchase of lands for such immigrants, or for procuring return passages for them.

and shall purchase lands when so directed for the colonization of immigrants.

78. The Receiver General shall, by and out of the moneys which shall from time to time be at the credit of such fund, pay all such orders as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall direct him to lay out and invest in the purchase of land for the colonization of immigrants or as a money commutation in lieu of back passages of Indian immigrants, and such further sums as shall be from time to time required to be expended for the payment of back passages for immigrants.

and carry 5,000 *l.* to credit of same fund under 20 Vict. c. 8.

79. The Receiver General shall also carry to the credit of the same account the sum of 5,000 *l.*, authorised to be raised under the provisions of an Act made and passed in the 20th year of Her Majesty's reign, chap. 8, for the purposes therein stated.

The Governor may contract for purchase of lands for purposes of colonization,

80. Whenever a sufficient number of immigrants shall require to have lands granted to them under the provisions of this Act, the Governor may, with the advice of the Executive Committee, from time to time contract for the absolute purchase, in fee simple, of lands in the proximity of estates whereon immigrants may be located, or any other lands suitable for

Appendix, No. 12.

for the purposes of this Act, the title whereto shall be taken in the name of Her Majesty for the purposes of this Act; and the Governor shall also have power, with the like advice,

and may grant same.

to grant any lands, or the right and title of Her Majesty to any lands which shall have become forfeited to Her Majesty for non-payment of land tax or quit rents, or otherwise, for the purposes of this Act.

Immigrants after obtaining certificate of industrial residence entitled to grant of land.

81. Every African, Asiatic, and Indian immigrant who shall have entitled himself under the provisions of this Act to a grant of land shall, so soon as he shall have become entitled to his certificate of industrial residence, be entitled to claim, through the Agent General of Immigration, a grant of 10 acres of land purchased or acquired as aforesaid; and with all convenient speed thereafter, a grant or patent for 10 acres of land shall be made out and given to such immigrant, and he shall be put in possession thereof by the Immigration Agent of the district.

Grant of land may be made for meritorious conduct of immigrants.

82. It shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, to give a grant to any immigrant whatsoever, as or by way of reward for meritorious conduct, not exceeding one acre of land for each year of industrial residence he shall have given, under indenture, in consideration of the faithful performance and discharge of his duties under such indenture.

Diagram of land to be annexed to such grants,

83. All grants and patents for land under the provisions of this Act shall have annexed thereto a plate or diagram of the lands thereby granted or given, as the same shall be laid out after actual survey by the Crown Surveyor for the county in which the land is situate, to be appointed by the Governor for the purpose.

at a maximum cost.

84. That the cost of surveying and laying out lands as aforesaid, shall not exceed the sum of 20*s.* for every 10 acres.

All such lands to be free of arrears of land tax.

85. All such lands shall be acquitted and discharged of all arrear of land tax and quit rents, and the grant or patent thereof, and the survey thereof, and all expenses shall be made and paid at the charge of "The Immigrant Colonization and Return Passage Fund;" and the same grant or patent shall be recorded and delivered to the immigrant entitled thereto, free of cost, charge, or expense to him, and which expenses shall be paid under warrant of the Governor by the Receiver General.

Persons receiving such grants to be exempt from taxes for three years.

86. Every person who shall receive a grant or patent of land under the provisions of this Act shall be exempted from all manner of direct taxes and charges and assessments, public and parochial, whatsoever (any taxes raised by way of licence, or on wheel carriages, horsekind, or horned stock, excepted), for the space of three years after such grant or patent shall be made.

Immigrants may be allowed to occupy lands on certain conditions;

87. The Immigration Agent, with the sanction of the Governor and Executive Committee, may permit any immigrant at any time, and from time to time, during his period of industrial residence, to occupy any land purchased or acquired for the purposes of this Act, which they may sanction for such time and upon such conditions as the Governor and Executive Committee shall determine, so as such occupation shall not prevent or interfere with the due and faithful discharge of the services of such immigrant under his indenture and the provisions of this Act, and no such immigrant shall be liable to any direct, public or parochial tax or charge in respect of such permissive occupation.

but must surrender same on notice,

88. At any time after the expiration of 30 days after a notice, in writing, signed by an Immigration Agent, requiring the delivery up of the possession of any land he may have been permitted to occupy, shall have been served upon any immigrant, or upon his wife, widow, child, or other member of his family, of the age of 16 years or upwards, or in case no person shall be found in the occupation of the premises, then, at any time after the expiration of 30 days after notice shall have been affixed to and left upon some conspicuous part of the premises, if possession shall not have been delivered up agreeably to the requirement of such notice, it shall be lawful for any two justices of the peace of the parish wherein such land is situate, having first summoned the defendant to appear before them by warrant under their hands (Form No. 12), to order any policeman, constable, or other peace officer, to enter upon any such lands, and any dwelling-house and buildings thereon, and to remove every person who shall be found thereon or therein, together with his goods and chattels, out of the same, and to put the Immigration Agent of the district, or any person appointed by him, in possession thereof, and any immigrant, or other person whosoever, who shall, after possession shall have been obtained, either by voluntary delivery or under compulsory process as aforesaid, knowingly retake or hold possession of any such land from the Immigration Agent or person appointed as aforesaid, shall, on conviction thereof, be liable to be imprisoned with or without hard labour for every such offence for not exceeding the space of three months

or be liable to forcible expulsion under warrant.

The Governor may communicate with agents respecting immigrants, &c.

89. The Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall, from time to time, as occasion shall require, communicate with the agent or agents in England, appointed or to be appointed under the 15 Vict., c. 39, and shall instruct such agent or agents, from time to time, as to the class and country of the immigrants it may be considered advisable to introduce into this island, and the funds to be raised for the purpose: Provided, that all such Instructions and Correspondence shall be communicated to Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, and shall be subject to his approval and confirmation.

Proviso.

90. The

90. The several forms in the annexed schedule or forms to the like effect shall be valid and effectual for the purposes of this Act. *The forms in schedule declared valid.*

91. It shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, to appropriate out of the monies raised or to be raised under the Act of 15 Vict. c. 39, such sums of money as may be found necessary to provide for the return passages of Indian immigrants remaining in this Island and entitled to return passages, to the ports or place from whence they embarked, or to pay commutation in money in lieu thereof; or if the said Indian immigrants, or any of them, shall agree to accept commutation, partly in money and partly in land, then to meet the payment of so much money, and to purchase such quantity of land as shall be agreed for respectively accordingly; and all land to be purchased as such part commutation shall be taken, granted, and held as other land may be taken, granted, and held under the provisions of this Act. *The Governor may appropriate monies raised under 15 Vict. c. 39.*

92. If any Indian immigrant who shall be introduced under the provisions of this Act, and shall be entitled to a return passage, shall agree to accept a commutation in lieu thereof, partly in money and partly in land, it shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, to direct the appropriation of so much of of the monies at the credit of "The Immigrant's Colonization and Return Passage Fund" as shall suffice for such purpose; and all land to be purchased accordingly shall be taken, granted, and held as other land may be taken, granted, and held under the provisions of this Act. Immigrants may receive commutation allowance in lieu of return passage.

93. The following Acts and parts of Acts shall be repealed; that is to say: the 10th section of the Act made and passed in the fifth year of Her Majesty's reign, c. 43; the Act made and passed in the 15th year of Her said Majesty's reign, cc. 38, 40, and 41; the Act made and passed in the 16th year of Her said Majesty's reign, cc. 18, 29, and 30; the Act made and passed in the 17th year of Her said Majesty's reign, cc. 6 and 36; the Act made and passed in the 18th year of Her said Majesty's reign, cc. 21 and 52; the Act made and passed in the 20th year of Her said Majesty's reign, c. 8; and the several clauses of the Act passed in the 15th year of Her said Majesty's reign, c. 39, from the 16th section inclusive to the end of the said Act; and the several Acts and clauses of Acts specially recited and repealed in and by such several Acts; as also all other Acts and clauses of Acts at any time heretofore repealed by the said therein specially recited Acts: Provided always, that all Acts done, and all existing contracts and agreements made and entered into, under the authority of any such Act or Acts shall continue in force for the time they were originally entered upon, and may be enforced, and breaches thereof punished, as if this Act had not been passed. The following Acts repealed:—10th sect. of 5 Vict. c. 43; 15 Vict. cc. 38, 40, and 41; 16 Vict. cc. 18, 29, and 30; 17 Vict. cc. 6 and 36; 18 Vict. cc. 21 and 52; 20 Vict. c. 8; 15 Vict. c. 39, from 16 section to end of Act: and the several Acts thereby repealed. Proviso.

94. This Act shall take effect on the first day of January next, and may be cited in all documents and proceedings as "The Immigration Act, 1857." Short title of Act.

Passed the Assembly, this 26th day of November 1857.

C. McLarty Morales, Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 27th day of November 1857

W. G. Stewart, Clerk to the Legislative Council.

I consent, this 15th day of December 1857.

C. H. Darling.

Vera copia extur.

W. G. Stewart, Secretary.

SCHEDULE OF FORMS.

No. 1.

FORM of NOTICE to PROPRIETORS or MANAGERS requiring Immigrants to be allotted on arrival.

18 .

PROPRIETORS or managers of estates desirous of indenturing immigrants on their arrival in this island, are requested to notify to me the name and residence of the proprietor, the estate on which it is proposed to indenture immigrants, the number of immigrants wanted for such estate, the particular description of the building or buildings in which such immigrants are to be located, and the country or place from which such proprietor is desirous such immigrants shall be introduced: such notification to be in the form annexed to "The Immigration Act, 1857," or as nearly thereto as circumstances will permit, otherwise no attention will be paid to the application.

A. B., Agent General of Immigration.

Appendix, No. 12.

No. 2.

FORM of APPLICATION for IMMIGRANTS.

Sir, 18

PURSUANT to the notice in the Gazette by authority dated 18 , I beg to intimate to you, on behalf of my constituents *A.B.*, of , *C.D.*, of, &c. [*describing each proprietor*], the proprietors of sugar estate, or otherwise [*according to the nature of the property, naming it*], in the parish of , that they are desirous to indenture on that estate immigrants, to be introduced from [*here specify the class of immigrants, and country, or if desirous of the services of any description of immigrants, "any country or place the Governor may think proper"*], and on behalf of my constituents I hereby express their willingness to accept the services of so many of such immigrants as shall be allotted to them, not exceeding the number above applied for, upon the terms and conditions of "The Immigration Act, 1847," immediately after the arrival of such immigrants, or that they will forfeit and pay to the Agent General of Immigration for the time being, a sum equal to the whole amount they would be required to pay for immigrants allotted to them, if after their introduction such immigrants should have been indentured to them according to the provisions of this Act, and the description of the building in which the immigrants are to be located, as stated hereunder; my power of attorney bears date [*specify date*], and is recorded in the secretary's office, libro , folio .

I am, &c.

To G. H., Esquire,
Agent General of Immigration.

E. F., Attorney to the above named.

No. 3.

FORM OF REGISTER.

REGISTER of Immigrants introduced into the Island of Jamaica, by means of 100,000 *l.* Fund [*or, as the case may be*], with Funds provided by means of the Immigration Act 1847.

Distinguishing Letter.	Ditto Number.	Name of Immigrant.	Age.	Sex.	Country.	Time of Arrival.	Place whence shipped.	Vessel.	Cost of Passage.	Average Cost of Importation payable by Employer.	Whether entitled to a Return Passage or not.	At whose Expense introduced.	To whom Indentured.	Estate on which located.	Advances to be repaid out of Wages.					Date of Death.	Date of Certificate of Industrial Residence.	Date of Passport.	Port from which Passport returned to be cancelled.	Remarks.

DISTINGUISHING LETTER.—1. Of immigrants from Great Britain, the British West Indies, and Possessions in North America - - - - - - - - - - A.
2. Of immigrants from the United States of America - - - - - B.
3. Of immigrants from Madeira, the Azores, the Canaries, and the Cape de Verd Islands - - - - - - - - - - - C.
4. Of Indian immigrants - - - - - - - - - - D.
5. Of Asiatic immigrants - - - - - - - - - - E.
6. Of African immigrants - - - - - - - - - - F.

Other classes, with other distinguishing letters, may be added, if requisite.

No. 4.

JAMAICA, ss.

THIS indenture, made the day of , 18 , between *A.B.*, immigrant labourer (A. No.), or *C.D.*, Immigration Agent of this Colony, on behalf of *A.B.*, &c., of the one part, and *E.F.*, of , in the said island , of the other part, witnesseth, that in virtue of "The Immigration Act, 1857," and in consideration of the covenants on the part of the said *E.F.* hereinafter contained, he, the said *A.B.*, doth hereby bind himself to the said *E.F.* for the term of years, to be computed from the date hereof; and doth hereby covenant with the said *E.F.*, his heirs and assigns, that he, the said *A.B.*, will, during the said term or the continuance of these presents, truly and faithfully serve the said *E.F.*, his heirs and assigns, as a labourer on estate, in the parish of , according to the laws and regulations made, or hereafter to be made, concerning immigrant labourers in this island; and the said *E.F.* doth hereby covenant with the said *A.B.* that he, the said *E.F.*, will, during the said term or the continuance of these presents, provide the said *A.B.* with suitable and sufficient lodging, medicine, and medical attendance,[a] and during three months from the date of this indenture with food and clothing, according to the annexed scale; and such medicine, medical attendance, food and lodging shall be in conformity with the laws or regulations made, or hereafter to be made, concerning immigrant labourers in this island; and also will pay wages to the said *A.B.*[b] during the next three months, at the rate of per diem, and, after the expiration of three months, at the same rate which may be at the time paid to the labourers not under a written agreement working on said estate, according to the quantity of work performed, being at the rate of not less than per , subject nevertheless to deductions, at the following rate, per ["*week*" *or* "*month*," *as the case may be*]; viz.:—

	£. s. d.
Medical attendance - - - - - - -	
Lodgings - - - - - - - - - -	
Repayment of advances, amounting in all to - -	
TOTAL deductions per [*week*] - £.	

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands.

A. B., or *C. D.*
E. F.

N. B.—The passages between brackets lettered [a] and [b] may be omitted if the Immigration Agent shall see fit. If they are inserted, the Immigration Agent must add a scale of food.

No. 5.

RETURN for the Year commencing 1st October 18 , ending 30th September 18 , of the entire Number of Immigrants located on Estate, in the Parish of , the Property of , introduced by means of the 100,000 *l.* Loan [*or as the case may be*], with Funds provided by means of the Immigration Act, 1857.

DISTINGUISHING LETTERS OF CLASS.

	A.		B.		C.		D.		E.		F.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Number at last Return - -												
Increase by Birth - - -												
„ by Transfer from other Estates - - -												
„ by Return of Deserters absent at the date of last Return - -												
Decrease by Death - - -												
„ by Transfer to other Estates - - -												
„ by Desertion - -												

Appendix, No. 12.

SPECIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

Name of Infant.	Date of Birth.	Sex.	Name of Father.	His distinguishing Letter and Number.	Name of Mother.	Her distinguishing Letter and Number.

SPECIFICATION OF DESERTERS WHO WERE ABSENT AT DATE OF LAST RETURN.

Names of Deserters.	Sex.	Distinguishing Letter and Number.	Date of Desertions during Year.	Date of Returns during Year.

SPECIFICATION OF DEATHS.

Names of Deceased.	Sex.	Distinguishing Letter and Number.	Date of Death.	Cause of Death.

SPECIFICATION OF DESERTERS DURING THE YEAR.

Names.	Sex.	Distinguishing Letter and Number.	Dates of Desertion.	Dates of Return during Year.

I, A. B., owner of estate, the property of do hereby declare that the above five returns contain, to the best of my knowledge and belief, returns of the number of immigrants on the said estate on the 1st day of October, 18 , the date of the last return, and on the 1st day of October, 18 , as also of the increase and decrease, since the last return, arising from births or deaths, transfers from or to other estates; the return of deserters absent therefrom on the preceding 1st October, but who afterwards returned to the estate; as also of cases of desertion from the estate during the year ending 30th September, 18 .

A. B.

Declared by the above-named A. B., before me this day of 18 .

J. P.

Appendix, No. 12.

No. 6.

FORM of Certificate of Industrial Residence.

THESE are to certify that (A 21), an immigrant introduced into this island from , on the day of 18 , having served under indenture for the full period of years of industrial residence, is now at liberty to abandon service, and is freed and discharged from all obligations of industrial residence or of service, except the obligation to obtain a passport previous to his leaving the island, under "The Immigration Act, 1857," or any other Act relating to immigration.

(signed) *A. B.*, Agent General of Immigrants.
[*or as the case may be.*]

No. 7.

FORM of Passport.

THESE are to certify that (A 21), an immigrant introduced into this island from on the day of , having obtained his certificate of industrial residence, and having applied to me for a passport, is entitled to depart from this island, and the master, or other person in charge of any vessel, is hereby authorised and empowered to receive such immigrant on board his vessel, for the purpose of carrying him off this island, taking from the said immigrant this passport, and depositing the same with the officer of Her Majesty's Customs of the port from which the vessel may clear, in order that the same may by such officer be returned to the Agent General of Immigration to be cancelled.

No. 8.

CERTIFICATE of Exemption from Industrial Service.

I DO hereby certify that (A 22), an immigrant introduced into this island from , hath been, by direction of the Governor, exempted from further industrial residence, in consequence of [*state the cause*].

No. 9.

FORM of Contract for Payment of Expenses.

WE, *A. B.* of *C. D.*, of &c., by *G. H.*, of our true and lawful attorney duly authorised in this behalf, do hereby contract and engage to the Agent General of Immigration, or the sub-agent of the district wherein the parish of shall be situate for the time being, to pay unto him the sum of , [*being two-thirds of the whole, as the case may require,*] of the average cost of importation, and of the cost of food and lodging supplied, &c. (A 21), an immigrant from , indentured to the said for years, by indenture, of equal date herewith, and located (a) on estate, in the said parish of by half-yearly instalments of pounds each, on the 10th day of March and the 10th day of September in each year, until fully paid, the first instalment to be made on the day of next, such sum of pounds to be a prior charge upon the said estate, and to be recovered and enforced under the provisions of "The Immigration Act, 1857," or any other Act in force relating to immigrants.

As witness our hands this day of

(signed) *A. B.*, *C. D.* } by *G. H.* their Attorney.

(a) If the immigrant has been re-indentured, insert "being the residue of the monies now due in respect of ['*two-thirds,*' *or* '*the whole,*' *as the case may be*] of the average cost of importation, and of the cost of food and lodging supplied (A 21), an immigrant from , originally indentured to , by indenture, dated the day of and then located on estate, but now re-indentured to by indenture of equal date herewith, and located [*as above*

No. 10.

Appendix, No. 12.

FORM of Authority to Distrain for Instalments due in respect of Indentured Immigrants.

WHEREAS default hath been made in payment of the several instalments due under contracts entered into by *A. B.*, of *C. D.*, of, &c., in respect of immigrants located on estate, in the parish of ; that is to say, two instalments of pounds each for the half year ending the day of , and the day of , under contract dated the day of , in respect of an immigrant named (A 21), from one instalment of pounds, for the half year ending the day of , under contract dated the day of in respect of three immigrants named (B 21), (B 22), and (B 23), from , which several instalments amount in the aggregate to the sum of pounds.

These are therefore to command you to levy the said sum of pounds, by distress of any goods and chattels to be found upon the said estate, in the said parish, upon which a landlord might distrain for rent in arrear; and if within 14 days next after such distress by you taken, with or without previous appraisement, the said sum, and the charges of distraining and keeping the same, shall not be paid, then that you do sell the said goods and chattels so by you distrained; and out of the money arising by such sale, that you do pay the said sum of pounds to me, to be accounted for under the provisions of "The Immigration Act, 1857," or any other Act in force relating to immigration, returning the overplus, on demand, to the proprietor, overseer, or manager of the said estate.

Given under my hand this day of

(signed)

To any policeman of the parish of

No. 11.

FORM of Authority to Distrain after Neglect to enter into Indenture.

WHEREAS immigrants from having been allotted to *A. B.*, of *C. D.*, of &c., for the purpose of being indentured on estate, in the parish of , pursuant to their application of the date the day of , 18 , *(through E. F., their attorney)* to *G. H.*, Esq., the (then) Agent General of Immigration, the said have neglected and refused to enter into the indenture and contract required by "The Immigration Act, 1857," and have forfeited and become liable immediately to pay the sum of pounds, being the amount which they would have been required to enter into contract to repay if they had entered into indenture and contract in respect of such immigrants, in accordance with such application [*which forfeiture and sum of pounds, His Excellency the Governor hath been pleased to mitigate and reduce to the sum of pounds (if such be the case)*]: These are therefore [*&c., as in preceding form, filling up the amount to be distrained on, with the full amount of forfeiture for the mitigated sum, if the same shall be reduced.*]

No. 12.

FORM of Warrant to remove Immigrant from Land Occupied by him.

JAMAICA, ss.

Parish } To any policeman, constable, or other peace officer.

WHEREAS complaint hath been made unto us, *A. B.* and *C. D.*, Esqrs., two of Her Majesty's justices of the peace in and for the said parish, upon the oath of , and other evidence now produced to us, that *E. F.* occupies the piece or parcel of land situate at , by the permission of the Immigration Agent, with the sanction of the Governor and Executive Committee, and having been duly required to yield and deliver up possession or occupation thereof, hath refused and neglected to deliver up the possession thereof, and the said *E. F.* having been summoned to appear before us this day, to show cause why he should not be removed from the said land, and having shown no sufficient cause for that purpose (or not having appeared), we do hereby authorise and require you, with such assistance as shall be necessary, to enter into the said land, and every house and building thereupon, in the day time, and remove the said *E. F.*, and all such persons as shall be found therein, together with his and their goods, out of such land, house, and buildings, and premises, and to put *G. H.*, the Immigration Agent for the district, or such person as he shall appoint, into the possession thereof.

Given unde our hands this day of , 18

Appendix, No. 13.

(No. 4196 of 1858.)

JAMAICA, ss.

CAP. VI.

AN ACT to authorise the Indenturing for purposes of Industrial Service, Persons condemned as forfeited to Her Majesty, under the Statutes for the Abolition of the Slave Trade in certain cases, and to remove doubts as to the Rights of such Persons.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is desirable to make provision for indenturing for industrial service, under the provisions of the Immigration Act, 1857, persons brought into this island and condemned by the Court of Vice Admiralty as forfeited to Her Majesty, under the statutes of the Imperial Parliament for the abolition of the slave trade, or in the events hereinafter provided: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

In certain contingencies the Agent General of Immigration, under the directions of the Governor, to take charge of persons condemned under the Acts for the abolition of the slave trade, and to indenture same to service.

1. In the absence of any general or special Order in Council, and until some other officer, civil or military, shall be appointed by Her Majesty to receive, protect, and provide for persons who shall be brought into this island for the purpose of condemnation, and who shall be condemned as prize to Her Majesty under the provisions of the statutes of the Imperial Parliament for the abolition of the slave trade, the Agent General of Immigration shall, under the orders and directions of the Governor, previously to condemnation, receive, protect, and provide for, and, after condemnation, indenture persons who shall be so condemned, and who shall not be entered and enlisted into Her Majesty's land or sea service, as soldiers, sailors, or marines, whatever may be the age of any such persons, for a term not exceeding seven years, to any employer within the meaning of the Immigration Act, 1857, upon the terms and conditions therein mentioned or authorised; and any indenture duly made and executed by such Immigration Agent shall be of the same force and effect as if the party thereby bound had, himself or herself, when of full age duly executed the same upon good consideration, and had executed such indenture under the provisons of that Act; and such persons may also be re-indentured, from time to time, to any employers within the meaning of the said Act, in the same way in which immigrants under indenture may be re-indentured before the expiration of their indentures, and their services shall pass and be transferred in case of the death of any employer, or the alienation, forfeiture, or demise, by any employer of the estate on which such person shall be indentured, in the like manner as the services of indentured immigrants: Provided, that the person to whom such estate may be aliened, demised, or devised, shall signify, by endorsement upon such indenture, his willingness to become the employer of the person named in such indenture, or in case of refusal such persons may be re-indentured.

Such persons to be immigrants within the meaning of the Immigration Act.

Proviso.

All persons so indentured to be amenable to the provisions of the Immigration Act.

Employers only to pay the cost of their support previous to being indentured.

2. Subject and without prejudice to the jurisdiction conferred by the Imperial statutes upon the Court of Vice-Admiralty, every such person when so indentured, and every employer to whom he shall be re-indentured, shall become, and they are hereby declared to be amenable to all and every the provisions of the said Act, as if such indenture were a contract of service entered between employer and immigrant under that Act; but no employer to whom any such person shall be indentured shall be required to enter into any contract for payment of any moneys for the benefit of this island, further than the cost to which the island shall be put for the support and maintenance of such persons between the period of their arrival and of their being indentured to such employer, which sum shall be fixed by the Governor, and collected and received from the employer at the time of his entering into indenture by the Agent General, and paid over to the Receiver General, to defray any advances he may have made for the previous maintenance and support of such persons.

The Governor, with advice of Executive Committee, may order advance of moneys necessary for the maintenance of such persons.

3. The Governor may, with the advice of the Executive Committee, by warrant under his hand, direct the Receiver General to advance from the Island Treasury any moneys required for the maintenance and support of such persons previously to condemnation and indenture, to be repaid as hereinbefore mentioned.

The indentures already executed in respect of persons captured by H.M.S. "Arab" declared valid.

4. All indentures already executed by the Agent General of Immigration, in respect of persons captured by Her Majesty's sloop "Arab," and condemned as forfeited to Her Majesty, are hereby declared valid and effectual, and the persons so indentured, and their employers, amenable to the provisions of this Act, and the "Immigration Act, 1857," in like manner as if such indentures had been executed after the passing of this Act.

All such persons to be deemed naturalised subjects.

5. All such persons heretofore, already, or hereafter to be brought into this island, after condemnation and indenture as aforesaid, shall be deemed to be, and to have been, for all purposes, as from the date of their being brought into, or of their arrival in this Colony, natural-born subjects of Her Majesty, her heirs, or successors, and to be and to have been capable of taking, holding, conveying, devising, and transmitting any estate, real or personal, within this Colony.

6. Provided,

Appendix, No. 13.

Nothing herein to affect the provision of the laws for the abolition of the slave trade.

6. Provided, that nothing in this Act shall in anywise prejudice or interfere with any of the provisions, in relation to such persons, of the laws in force for the abolition or suppression of the slave trade.

Passed the Assembly, this 27th day of November 1857.

C. M'Larty Morales, Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 3d day of December 1857.

W. G. Stewart, Clerk to the Legislative Council.

I consent, this 15th day of December 1857.

C. H. Darling.

Vera Copia Extur.

W. G. Stewart, Sec.

Appendix, No. 14.

ANNO VICESIMO SECUNDO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

Appendix, No. 14.

(No. 4237 of 1858.

JAMAICA, ss.

CAP. IV.

AN ACT to authorise the Indenturing, for purposes of Industrial Service, Persons condemned as forfeited to Her Majesty under the Statutes for the Abolition of the Slave Trade, in certain cases, and to remove doubts as to the Rights of such Persons.

WHEREAS it is desirable to make provision for indenturing, for industrial service, under the provisions of the "Immigration Act, 1858," persons brought into this island, and condemned, by the Court of Vice Admiralty, as forfeited to Her Majesty, under the statutes of the Imperial Parliament for the abolition of the slave trade, or in the events hereinafter provided: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. In the absence of any general, or special Order in Council, and until some other officer civil or military, shall be appointed by Her Majesty to receive, protect, and provide for persons who shall be brought into this island for the purpose of condemnation, and who shall be condemned as prize to Her Majesty, under the provisions of the statutes of the Imperial Parliament for the abolition of the slave trade, the Agent General of Immigration shall, under the orders and directions of the Governor, previously to condemnation, receive, protect, and provide for, and, after condemnation, indenture persons who shall be so condemned, and who shall not be entered and enlisted into Her Majesty's land or sea service as soldiers, sailors, or marines, whatever may be the age of any such persons, to any employer within the meaning of the "Immigration Act, 1858," upon the terms and conditions therein mentioned or authorised, and any indenture, duly made and executed, by such Agent General, shall be of the same force and effect as if the party thereby bound had himself, when of full age, duly executed the same upon good consideration, and had executed such indenture under the provisions of that Act, and such persons may also be re-indentured, from time to time, to any employers within the meaning of the said Act, in the same way in which immigrants under indenture may be re-indentured before the expiration of their indentures, and their services shall pass and be transferred, in case of the death of any employer, or the alienation, forfeiture, or devise by any employer of the estate on which such person shall be indentured, in the like manner as the services of indentured immigrants: Provided, that the person to whom such estate may be aliened, demised, or devised, shall signify, by endorsement upon such indenture, his willingness to become the employer of the person named in such indenture, or, in case of refusal, such persons may be re-indentured.

2. No such person shall be indentured or re-indentured for a longer period in the whole than three years, or such time as may elapse until he shall reach the age of 18 years.

3. In every case where any such person shall be supposed to be under the age of 18 years, the Agent General shall, according to the best evidence or information he can obtain at the time of indenturing such person, fix the age of the indentured person at the date of the indenture, and shall endorse the same thereon, or, in default, the indenture of every such person shall determine on the expiration of three years from the date thereof.

4. Subject, and without prejudice to the jurisdiction conferred by the imperial statutes upon the Court of Vice Admiralty, every such person, when so indentured, and every employer to whom he shall be indented shall become, and they are hereby declared to be amenable

amenable, to all and every the provisions of the said Act, as if such indenture were a contract of service entered into between employer and immigrant under that Act, but no employer, to whom any such person shall be indentured, shall be required to enter into any contract for payment of any monies for the benefit of this island, further than the cost to which the island shall be put for the support and maintenance of such person between the period of his arrival and being indentured to such employer, which sum shall be fixed by the Governor, and collected and received from the employer at the time of his entering into indenture by the Agent General, and paid over to the Receiver General to defray any advances he may have made for the previous maintenance and support of such person. Appendix, No. 14.

5. The Governor may, with the advice of the Executive Committee, by warrant under his hand, direct the Receiver General to advance from the island treasury any monies required for the maintenance and support of such persons previously to condemnation and indenture, to be repaid as hereinbefore mentioned.

6. All indentures, already executed by the Agent General of Immigration, in respect of persons captured by Her Majesty's sloop "Arab," and condemned as forfeited to Her Majesty, are hereby declared valid and effectual; and the persons so indentured, and their employers, amenable to the provisions of this Act, and "The Immigration Act, 1858," in like manner as if such indentures had been executed after the passing of this Act; and every such indenture shall be in force for three years from the date thereof, or such time as in any case where the African was under the age of 18 years at the date of the indenture may elapse until he shall reach such age: provided, that in any such case his age as of such date shall, before the expiration of three years therefrom, be fixed and endorsed on the indenture by the Agent General, in like manner as hereinbefore provided; or, in default, the indenture shall determine at the expiration of three years from the date thereof.

7. All such persons heretofore, already, or hereafter to be brought into this island, after condemnation and indenture as aforesaid, shall be deemed to be, and to have been, for all purposes, as from the date of their being brought into, or of their arrival in this Colony, natural-born subjects of Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, and to be, and to have been capable of taking, holding, conveying, devising, and transmitting any estate, real or personal, within this Colony: Provided, that nothing in this Act shall in anywise prejudice or interfere with any of the provisions, in relation to such persons, of the laws in force for the abolition or suppression of the Slave Trade.

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ANNO VICESIMO SECUNDO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ. Appendix, No. 15.

(No. 4238 of 1858.)

JAMAICA, ss.

CAP. I.

AN ACT to Amend the Laws Relating to Immigrants, and to Provide for Re payment of the Expenses Attendant upon their Introduction and subsequent Colonization in this Island.

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the laws relating to immigrants, to be hereafter introduced into this island: be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Interpretation of Terms.

1. In the construction of this Act, the following words and expressions shall have the meaning hereby assigned to them, if not inconsistent with the context or subject matter; that is to say, the expression "Immigration Agent" shall include any person appointed by the Governor to act as Agent General of Immigration, or as a sub-agent; the word "immigrant," shall mean all persons who may hereafter be introduced into this island under, and subject to the provisions of this Act; the expression "Indian immigrant," shall mean any immigrant who shall have been introduced from the British possessions in the East Indies; the expression "Asiatic immigrant," any immigrant who shall have been introduced from any other part of the continent or islands of Asia, except the British possessions in the East Indies, and except China; the expression "African immigrant," any immigrant from any part of the African continent, or from the island of Madagascar, or from any other island adjacent to the coast of the African continent, and inhabited by the negro race; the word "indenture," shall include all contracts of service, whether by indenture or otherwise, declared to be valid by this Act; the expression "indentured immigrant," shall mean any immigrant under such indenture who shall not have completed his industrial residence; the

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word "employer," shall mean the proprietor, including any body politic or corporate, company or association, interested in the cultivation of estates, or the manufacture of agricultural produce, or manager, attorney, overseer, or other person having the direction of, or the chief authority upon, any sugar, coffee, or other plantation, breeding pen, or pimento walk, on which any immigrant may be employed; the word "estate," shall mean any sugar, coffee, or other plantation, breeding pen or pimento walk, on which any immigrant may be employed, and the lessee or tenant of any estate shall, during the continuance of his lease, or agreement, be deemed a proprietor within the meaning of this Act.

Appointment and Salary of Agents of Immigration and Emigration. Nomination of Ports of Emigration.

2. The Governor may appoint fit and proper persons to be Agent General of Immigration, as also sub-agents, to act within such limits or districts of the island, as shall be specified in their respective appointments, which Agent General shall be entitled to receive a salary from the public treasury, not exceeding two hundred pounds per annum, until five thousand immigrants at least shall have been introduced, and, thereafter, three hundred pounds per annum; and each sub-agent shall be entitled to receive a sum not exceeding six shillings for each immigrant per annum; and the Governor may, from time to time, remove any Agent General, or sub-agent, and appoint any other fit and proper person in his place; and each sub-agent shall also be inspector of immigrants.

3. The Governor may, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, from time to time, appoint an agent or agents at any port or ports of emigration, from which immigrants to this island may be embarked, for the purpose of engaging and despatching emigrants to be shipped to this island, under, and subject to, such rules and directions as he or they shall, from time to time, receive from the Governor, and may also fix the salary, or other remuneration, to be paid to such agents, so as that the expense for such agents shall not exceed, in any one year, the sum of three thousand pounds.

4. The Governor may, from time to time, by proclamation, or by notice, to be published in the Gazette, by authority in this island, as also, if he shall think fit, in the London Gazette, and in any public newspaper circulating out of this island, name the ports or places from which immigration into this Colony, within the meaning and subject to the provisions of this Act, shall be permitted, and the conditions under which such immigration may be carried on.

Provision for Proportionate Introduction of Immigrants of both Sexes.

5. The Governor shall make provision for the introduction, from time to time, of such a proportionate number of immigrants of both sexes, as may be fixed by Her Majesty's Government.

As to Contracts with Private Persons by Immigrants before Arrival.

6. If any immigrant arriving in this island from Madeira, the Azores, the Canaries, or the Cape de Verd islands, or from any part of Europe, or of the West Indies or of the United States, or of the British provinces of North America, or from any port or place from which immigration, within the meaning, and subject to, the provisions of this Act, shall have been permitted as aforesaid, shall, before his arrival, have contracted with any person to perform service in this island, such contract shall, when approved of, and countersigned by the Immigration Agent, and subject to such alterations as the said agent may, with the consent of the parties, have made therein, be valid in this island for the full period named in such contract, not exceeding three years: provided, that except as hereinafter mentioned, no such contract shall be so approved and countersigned, unless it shall have been signed with the names or marks of the contracting parties, and purport to be attested by a justice of the peace, whose signature shall be attested by a notary public, or attested by some notary public in the first instance, or British consul, or by some other person approved by, or acting under authority of Her Majesty's Government, one of whom shall certify that the parties entered into such contract voluntarily; and with a full understanding of its meaning; nor unless the Immigration Agent shall be satisfied that the immigration has been carried on in accordance with all existing regulations of the Imperial Government and of the Legislature of this island.

7. If the Immigration Agent shall not be so satisfied, or shall find the contract not to be so signed, and attested as aforesaid, he shall report the same to the Governor, who may, if he shall think fit, notwithstanding such report, direct the said Immigration Agent to approve and countersign such contract in manner aforesaid.

As to Agreements, before Arrival, for Contracts of Service.

8. In case any immigrant, other than an Asiatic or Indian immigrant, shall, before embarkation, have consented to enter, upon his arrival in this island, into a contract of service with any employer, whom the Immigration Agent may select, for a period not exceeding three years, such consent being shown either by certificate of the Government Emigration Agent, at the port of embarkation, or by an agreement signed by the immigrant, and witnessed by such notary, consul, or other officer, as hereinbefore mentioned, the Immigration Agent may indenture such immigrant to any employer whom the Governor may think fit. Provided always,

always, that no such assignment shall take effect until the employer and the immigrant, or the immigration agent, on his behalf, shall have executed an indenture in the form annexed (Form No. 4), or in such other form as may be approved by the Governor; nor in case such immigrant shall have been introduced by the Government of this Island, until such employer shall have also entered into contract for payment of the costs of importation, and incidental expenses, as required by this or any Act now or hereafter to be in force.

As to Notice for Application for Immigrants.

9. The Agent General of Immigration shall, whenever directed by the Governor, cause a notice to be published in the Gazette, by authority, (Forms Nos. 1 and 2,) requiring proprietors and managers of estates to make application to him for such immigrants as they may be desirous of indenturing upon their arrival, and to notify the names and residences of each such proprietor, the estate on which he is desirous to indenture such immigrants, the number of immigrants wanted, and the particular description of the building or buildings in which such immigrants are to be located, and the country or place from which he is desirous they should be introduced, and to express the willingness of such proprietor to accept the services of so many of such immigrants as shall be allotted to him, not exceeding the number applied for upon the terms and conditions of this Act, immediately after their arrival, or to forfeit and pay to the Agent General of Immigration for the time being, a sum equal to the whole amount he would be required to pay, if, after their introduction, the immigrants allotted to him should be indentured to him according to the provisions of this Act, all which applications shall be by the Agent General submitted to the Governor and the Executive Committee, with a view to arrangements being made for the introduction of the required number of immigrants, or as many thereof as shall be practicable.

As to Reports from Emigration Agent.

10. The agent at any port of immigration shall transmit to the Agent General of Immigration, by the vessel in which the immigrants shall be shipped for this island, and by any other ordinary means of communication, a return showing the age, as near as the same can be ascertained, of every immigrant so shipped, and such other particulars as the Governor shall, from time to time, direct.

Cost of Importation, and Incidental Expenses, &c.

11. The Governor may, from time to time, fix and determine the average cost of importation of each immigrant of the several classes contemplated by this Act, introduced by the Government of this island, and in fixing such costs, shall include therein a sum sufficient, in his judgment, to cover the expenses of advances prior to embarkation of immigrants who may die before arrival in this island, or immediately after their arrival; and before their services can be assigned, the passage-money, salaries, and incidental expenses of interpreters, and all other expenses reasonably incidental to the introduction, protection, and care of immigrants, together with such an additional sum as, in his opinion, shall be sufficient to cover a proportionate part of the general risk of loss from death or other cause, before the expiration of the full term of industrial residence of immigrants of such class: Provided, that passage-money shall be paid only for such immigrants as shall be landed alive in this island; and that in case it shall at any time appear to the Governor that he shall have fixed the average cost of importation of any class of immigrants at too high a sum, then he shall have power to remit the whole or any portion of the excess; and the Agent General of Immigration shall forbear to require or enforce payment of the excess so remitted on any further instalments to fall due, and shall refund to any employer any excess already paid: Provided also, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, as soon as shall be found practicable, to effect arrangements with some insurance or other company, or companies, to assume the risk of loss from deaths of immigrants for a commensurate premium.

12. Towards providing for the risks of loss from death or other cause, the Receiver General shall carry to an account, to be called the "Immigration Risk Fund Account," such portion as the Governor shall, from time to time, direct of all surplus monies now and hereafter arising from the export duties under the Act of the 15 Vict. c. 39, after providing for the interest and sinking fund on the loan under such Act, and after meeting any other appropriation by this Act directed, from or out of such surplus monies; and the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, is hereby empowered, from time to time, by warrant, under his hand, to direct the Receiver General to remit the whole or any part of the monies at any time standing to the credit of the said fund, to be invested in the public funds or Parliamentary securities of Great Britain, and the interest or dividends to accrue upon the same, when invested, shall also be invested in the like funds or securities, and all such investments, and the dividends, and proceeds thereof, shall stand to the credit of the said Immigration Risk Fund.

13. If any immigrant, on arrival, shall not be immediately provided with employment, it shall be the duty of the Immigration Agent, and he is hereby authorised to provide him with food and lodging at the expense of the island, until he shall be indentured, which expenses shall be repaid by the person to whom such immigrant shall be indentured.

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As to Regulations by the Governor for the Maintenance and Care of Immigrants.

14. The Governor may make regulations, which shall be legally binding upon employers, respecting the food and clothing to be provided for immigrants during their first three months of service, and respecting the lodging, medicine, and medical care of immigrants; also during the continuance of their indentures, and respecting any other matters necessary for carrying this Act into effect; all which regulations shall be published in the "Jamaica Gazette," by authority.

15. Every immigrant, in the absence of any express agreement to the contrary shall, during illness, receive, instead of wages, such allowances as the state of his health may require, or as may be directed by any regulation to be issued by the Governor, and published as aforesaid.

As to Register of Immigrants.

16. The Agent General of Immigration shall keep a register (Form No. 3) for separate classes of immigrants arriving in this island, distinguishing each class by a particular alphabetical letter, and shall insert therein the names of all immigrants of each class arriving in the island, and shall number every immigrant by a particular number, commencing with the number one, and proceeding by regular numerical progression, and shall distinguish therein, under different heads, the alphabetical letter, number, name, age, sex, and country of every such immigrant, and the time when, the place from which, and the vessel in which such immigrant shall have arrived, and the cost of the passage, whether such immigrant has been introduced into this island by the means of the unappropriated residue of the sum of 100,000 *l.*, authorised to be raised under the provisions of the Acts 15 Vict. c. 20, and 16 Vict. c. 25, or whether introduced by means of loans to be raised under any other Act or Acts of this island to be passed, specifying such Act or Acts, or whether by the private means of the employer or other person, naming him, and the average sum payable in respect of every such immigrant by his employer, and whether such immigrant will, or will not be entitled to a return passage; and also the name of the employer to whom he shall be indentured on his arrival, and of the amount of monies, if any, which may have been advanced to such immigrant previous to his arrival in this island, and which is to be repaid by him out of his wages in this island, and such further particulars as the Governor shall direct; and shall furnish to each sub-agent full particulars in respect of every such immigrant located in, or transferred to his district, for the Government of such sub-agent.

Annual Return by Employers, &c.

17. The employer of every immigrant shall, on or before the 13th day of October in each year, make a return, (Form No. 5,) to the 30th September preceding, of the names and numbers of all such immigrants as have been in his employment at any time during the year last past, together with the date and cause (as far as the same may be known) of all deaths, and the number of births of the children of such immigrants, and the names of all immigrants who may have left the estate during such preceding year, to the Agent General, who shall insert the particulars thereof in the register of immigrants hereinbefore required to be kept by him; and the Agent General shall, at the end of every year, terminating on the 30th September, furnish the Governor with an abstract return, in triplicate, of the number, sex, increase, and decrease, of all immigrants in this island, who shall not have completed their period of industrial residence; and also the number of each sex arrived within the previous 12 months, the ships in which they arrived, and the date of arrival, such return to be furnished on or before the 10th November then following; and the Governor shall cause the same to be laid before the Legislative Council and Assembly, at their session, then holding, or to be holden next thereafter.

As to the Indenturing of Immigrants.

18. Every Indian immigrant on his arrival shall be assigned by indenture (Form No. 4), for a period of two years, and may, within one month after the expiration of that period, be re-indentured to any other employer whom he may select, for a further period of one year, and may, within one month after the expiration of the third year, and on payment of 5 *l.*, demand a certificate of industrial residence, or he may, within such period as may be prescribed by the Governor, before the expiration of such third year, signify to the Immigration Agent his desire to be re-indentured to any other employer whom he may select, for a period of one year, from the determination of his then existing indenture, and the Immigration Agent shall re-indenture him accordingly, and if the immigrant shall fail to make such payment, or to require such re-indenture, his original indenture or re-indenture shall be deemed to be extended for one year.

19. Any Indian immigrant whose original indenture shall have been so extended, or who shall have been re-indentured for a period of one year, after the expiration of his indenture, for a third year, may, within one month after the expiration of his fourth year's service, on payment of 2 *l.* 10 *s.*, demand a certificate of industrial residence, or may require to be re-indentured in like manner as aforesaid, and the Immigration Agent shall re-

indenture

indenture him accordingly for a fifth year, and if he shall fail to make such payment, or to require to be so re-indentured, his last indenture shall be deemed to be extended for such fifth year.

20. It shall be competent to the Immigration Agent to assign any Asiatic immigrant on his arrival, for a period not exceeding five years, according to the terms of any contract into which he shall have entered before his arrival here: provided, that at the expiration of the second, and every other year of such period, the immigrant may require the said agent to transfer him to some other employer, whom he may select, for the remainder of the said period, or on payment of all advances made to him before his arrival in the colony, and then remaining unpaid, and of 3 *l.* per annum for every year wanting to complete five years' residence in this island, to release him absolutely from his indenture, and give him a certificate of industrial residence: provided also, that every such assignment and transfer as aforesaid, shall be made by indenture as near as may be in the form annexed (Form 4), or such other form as may be approved by the Governor, and such transfer shall be determinable at the request of the immigrant in like manner as the original assignment.

21. In making any assignment of immigrants it shall not be lawful for the Immigration Agent to separate husbands from wives, nor children, under the age of 15 years, from their parents or natural protectors.

As to Indentures to Lessees.

22. No immigrant introduced by the Government of this island shall be indentured to the lessee, or the tenant of any estate held under any lease or agreement, unless the owner of such estate, by himself, or his attorney, shall be a party to such indenture, or the contract for payment of the expense of introducing such immigrant, and the lease or agreement shall have a longer period to run than the term for which such immigrant shall be indentured, or unless such lessee shall enter into such separate security to provide for the payment of such expense, and for the location and maintenance of such immigrants as may be approved of by the Governor and Executive Committee.

As to the Services of the Immigrant in case of the Death of the Employer.

23. If the employer of any indentured immigrant shall die, or if the estate mentioned in the contract of such immigrant shall be determined or forfeited, alienated or devised, the person who shall become entitled to such estate shall be entitled to the services of such immigrant during the residue of the term of his indenture: provided always, that for the purpose of deciding any dispute as to the title of any person to such estate, and the services of such immigrant, the person who is actually in possession of such estate shall be deemed to be entitled thereto; but the services of an indentured immigrant may be transferred, with his consent, to any other estate belonging to the same employer: provided, that a memorandum of such transfer shall be endorsed on his contract, and signed by the Immigration Agent.

As to the Cancellation of Indentures, and Re-Indenturing of Immigrants.

24. The Immigration Agent may, with the sanction of the Governor, cancel the indenture of any immigrant, in respect of whom any sum of money, payable by his employer under this Act, shall remain unpaid for a period of three months after it shall have become due, or shall remain unpaid for a period of one month after a distress warrant shall have issued, to enforce payment for want of goods and chattels whereon to levy, or the indenture of any immigrant, who being paid according to the quantity of his work, shall not have received work sufficient, in the opinion of the said Immigration Agent, to enable him to earn a reasonable amount of wages, or in case any immigrant shall have been ill used by his employer, or in case of neglect of duty, or breach of contract on the part of any employer, in addition to any other penalty or forfeiture.

25. The Immigration Agent may, with the sanction of the Governor, at the request of any employer and immigrant, cancel any indenture for the purpose of re-indenturing any immigrant.

26. Any immigrant whose indenture shall have been cancelled under any of the provisions of this Act, may, without the consent of such immigrant, be re-indentured to some other employer by the Immigration Agent, for any period not exceeding the then unexpired period of such indenture.

As to Desertion of Service; Compensation for Absence.

27. No Indian or Asiatic immigrant who shall have deserted, or absented himself from service otherwise than from illness, while under indenture, for periods amounting together to more than one month in each year, shall be entitled to a certificate of industrial residence, until he shall have further served, under indenture, for the period of such absence or desertion, unless he shall give a money commutation in lieu.

28. Whenever an immigrant shall be required to make good to any employer any time lost to such employer, in consequence of the absence or desertion of any such immigrant,

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it shall be lawful for him, with the sanction of the Immigration Agent, to commute, by a money payment to his employer, to be fixed by such Immigration Agent, subject to the decision of the Governor, in case either party shall be dissatisfied with his award for the time he would otherwise be bound to render in compensation for such absence or absences: provided, that in all cases the absence of any immigrant, while undergoing imprisonment, shall be deemed an absence within the meaning of this Act, which he shall be bound to make good by service, or compensation in money.

As to Industrial Residence.

29. In case of immigrants under 12 years of age, residence in the island shall, for the purpose of completing industrial residence, be equivalent to residence under indenture, and immediately after any such immigrant shall attain his age of 12 years, he shall be liable to be indentured by the Agent General for the then residue of his term of industrial residence, and to all other the privileges and obligations of an indentured immigrant; and the Agent General shall fix and determine the period at which such immigrant shall have attained such his age of 12 years, according to the best evidence or information he can obtain.

30. All immigrants other than Indian or Asiatic immigrants, shall be entitled, after having resided three years in this island, to demand from the Immigration Agent a certificate of industrial residence, unless it shall be recorded in the office of the said Immigration Agent, or shall otherwise appear to his satisfaction, that such immigrant has deserted, or absented himself from service, otherwise than from illness, while under indenture, for periods amounting together, during the three years, to more than three months, in which case he shall not be entitled to such certificate, unless and until such immigrant shall have further served under indenture for the period of such absence, or desertion, or given a money commutation in lieu thereof, under the provisions of this Act.

31. Any Asiatic or Indian immigrant who shall have served five years under indenture, or shall have made the money payments hereby appointed in lieu of service, may demand a certificate of industrial residence (Form No. 6).

Naturalization of Immigrants.

32. Every immigrant, born out of the British dominions, who shall have obtained, or become entitled to a certificate of industrial residence, shall immediately thereafter become entitled to all the privileges of a natural-born British subject within this island.

Passport, and Back Passage.

33. Every immigrant who shall have received, or shall be entitled to such certificate of industrial residence, shall be at liberty to abandon service, and may demand from the Immigration Agent a passport (Form No. 7), which, as well as the said certificate, shall be signed by the Immigration Agent, and given gratis, but no immigrant shall depart from this island without such passport.

34. Every Indian immigrant shall, on production of his passport, be at liberty to depart from this island at his own expense, or, after residence of 10 years, shall be entitled to a back passage at the expense of the island to the port in India from which he emigrated: provided he shall claim such back passage at any time within 18 months after the period at which such back passage may become due and claimable, unless he shall, with the sanction of the Governor, have foregone such right, in consideration of a grant of land, or a money payment, or partly of a grant of land, and partly of a payment in money, the Governor shall give to each applicant for a return passage, at least three months' notice, as precise as circumstances render possible, of the period at which such passage will be offered him.

Certificate of Exemption.

35. The Governor may authorise the Immigration Agent to grant a certificate of exemption from industrial residence (Form No. 8), to any immigrant who, from sickness, accident or other cause, shall appear to him incapable of labour, and may send any Indian immigrant back at the expense of the fund herein provided to the port in India from which he emigrated, at any time after the granting of such certificate.

Demurrage in respect of Back Passage.

36. Every Indian immigrant who shall have become entitled to a back passage, shall be entitled to demand and receive, out of the fund herein provided, the sum of 25 *s.* for every six months he shall be detained in this island after he shall become entitled thereto.

Provisions of Passenger Acts in respect of Back Passage.

37. In respect of all ships leaving the island with return immigrants, the Immigration Agent shall perform all the duties imposed on Immigration Agents in England by the "Passenger Act, 1855," of the Imperial Parliament, or any other Passenger Act which may now or hereafter be in force.

As to the Collection and Administration of the Property of Immigrants Dying.

38. It shall be the duty of the Immigration Agent to collect and take possession of the property of any immigrant who shall die in this island, and, with the sanction of the Governor, to deliver all such property to any person in the island who shall establish a right to the same, or, in the absence of any such person, to turn the said property into money, and pay the proceeds into the island treasury, in order that the same may be remitted to the person or persons in India or elsewhere, who shall be entitled thereto.

39. It shall be lawful for the Governor to make all regulations necessary for giving effect to the provisions of the last preceding section, and any person contravening such regulations shall be liable, on conviction thereof, to a penalty not exceeding 5 *l.*

Hours of Labour, and Holidays.

40. Every indentured immigrant, in the absence of any express agreement to the contrary, and except in case of illness, shall be bound to work upon, or in the service of, the estate mentioned in his indenture, for nine hours of each day, except only Sundays, Good Friday, New Year's Day, and Christmas Day, and such other days to be observed as festivals, according to the national custom of the class of immigrants to which such immigrant shall be registered as belonging, as the Governor shall, from time to time, sanction and appoint.

Power of Entry and Inspection by Immigration Agent.

41. The Immigration Agent may, at any time, enter upon any estate where any immigrants shall be employed, and may inspect the state and condition of such immigrants, and, if requisite, require a muster of such immigrants, or any of them as may then be on such estate, and shall, at such periods as the Governor shall direct, visit and inspect every estate whereon immigrants shall be employed.

Employers' Report to Police of Desertion; Proceedings thereon.

42. Every employer of every immigrant shall, within 24 hours from the time at which it shall have come to his knowledge that any immigrant shall have deserted from any estate, report such desertion at the nearest police station, stating in such report the distinguishing letter, and number, and name of such immigrant, with the date of his indenture, and every other information likely to facilitate the apprehension of such deserter, and it shall thereupon become the duty of the police to circulate such report among their several stations throughout the island; and every employer who shall fail to comply with the provisions of this clause, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding 5 *l.*

Accountability of Immigrant absent from Place of Employment.

43. It shall be lawful for the employer, or any servant of his, or for the Immigration Agent, or any police constable, or person enrolled as rural constable, to stop, without a warrant, any African, Indian, or Asiatic immigrant who shall, at any time (except Sundays, or the holidays, or festivals mentioned in this Act), be found during the ordinary hours of work at a distance of more than two miles from the estate in respect of which his services may be due; and if any immigrant, so found, shall fail to produce, upon being required to do so, a certificate of exemption, or of industrial residence, or a written ticket of leave, signed by his employer, to take such immigrant back to the estate in respect of which his services may be due; or if he shall refuse to disclose the name of such estate, then to take him forthwith before some neighbouring justice of the peace, and such justice shall forthwith inquire into the case, and unless he shall be satisfied that such immigrant has completed such residence, or obtained such exemption as aforesaid, or that he is absent from the estate in respect of which his services shall be due, with the leave of his employer, shall make order for his immediate committal to the nearest prison, not being a county gaol, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding 14 days.

Penalties on Employers, Immigrants, and other Persons.

44. Every employer of immigrants who shall omit to make the annual return hereinbefore required; and every person who shall, by any act or omission, obstruct the Immigration Agent in entering upon any plantation where any immigrant shall be employed, or in inquiring into the state and condition of any immigrant, shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding 20 *l.* for every such offence.

45. Every indentured immigrant who, during the continuance of his indenture, shall, without lawful excuse, absent himself from his work, shall forfeit his claim to all wages and allowances for the time during which he shall so absent himself, and, on being convicted of such absence, shall, for every such offence, be imprisoned in the nearest prison, not being a county gaol, and kept to hard labour for a term not exceeding 14 days.

46. If any immigrant shall, by negligence or improper conduct, lose, throw away, endanger, or damage the property of his employer, or shall endanger such property by a careless or improper use of fire, or shall cruelly ill-use any cattle or other live stock belonging

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ing to his employer, or entrusted to his care, or by negligence occasion to be cruelly ill-used any such cattle or live stock, every such offender, on conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment, with or without hard labour, not exceeding 30 days.

47. Any immigrant who shall falsely or fraudulently pretend that he has completed his industrial residence, or who shall use, give, or lend any certificate or passport for any fraudulent purpose, or who shall wilfully counterfeit, or alter any such certificate or passport, shall, on conviction thereof, be imprisoned in such place of confinement as aforesaid, with hard labour, for such term not exceeding three months.

48. Any person who shall knowingly harbour, or receive into his employment, any immigrant then under indenture to any other person, shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit and pay to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding 20 *l.*, and shall pay to the employer the sum of 4 *s.* for each day during which such immigrant shall have been harboured or employed, complaint of such harbouring or employment being made by the Immigration Agent, or by the employer of such immigrant, at any time within 12 months after the offence shall have been committed: provided, that if any employer shall state, upon oath, before any justice of the peace, that he has reasonable cause to suspect that any such immigrant is harboured, concealed, or employed on the premises of any person, such justice of the peace may grant a warrant to search for such immigrant, and bring him, and the person by whom such immigrant may be harboured, concealed, or employed, before him, to be dealt with as provided by this Act.

49. Every master, or other person in charge of any vessel, who shall knowingly receive or harbour on board of such vessel any immigrant who shall not have duly obtained his passport, with the intention of carrying him out of this island, or any person who shall aid and abet the departure of any such immigrant, shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.* for each and every such immigrant whom he shall have received, harboured, aided, or abetted.

Jurisdiction of Offences.

50. All offences and breaches of any stipulation or engagement contained in any indenture, on the part of either employer or immigrant, for which no punishment is otherwise provided by this or any other Act, may be heard and determined by and before the Immigration Agent; and, on conviction, shall be punishable, in case of any employer, by fine not exceeding 5 *l.*; and, in default of payment, by imprisonment not exceeding one month; and, in case of any immigrant, by imprisonment, with or without hard labour, not exceeding one month.

Evidence.

51. Every indenture, contract, document, or other proceeding, or any copy thereof, or any extract from the register, directed to be kept by the Agent General, certified by or purporting to bear the signature of any Immigration Agent, shall be received as *primâ facie* evidence of the original, and of the truth of the contents thereof, without further proof.

Exemption from Stamp Duty.

52. All appointments, documents, and legal instruments required, or made evidence by this Act, shall be exempted from stamp duty.

Recovery of Penalties, &c.

53. All penalties and forfeitures imposed by this Act shall be sued for and recovered by the Agent General of Immigration in the name of the Queen, in a summary manner before the Immigration Agent, in the parish in which the same respectively may be incurred, and the aggregate amount of penalties in respect of any number of immigrants under indenture to the same employer, under one information, and all penalties and forfeitures awarded to be paid by any employer, shall be recovered by distress and sale of any goods and chattels to be found on the estate on which a landlord might distrain for rent in arrear, and shall not be repleviable, except under an order of a judge of the Supreme Court, to be made upon affidavit sworn to before a justice of the peace, or a commissioner of the Supreme Court, disclosing such special circumstances as, in his opinion, would, if proved on the trial of such replevin, warrant a verdict in the plaintiff's favour; and every agent of immigration who shall enforce any of the provisions of this Act, shall be deemed to have been acting as, and entitled to the protection afforded by law, to a justice of the peace acting in the execution of his office; and all pecuniary penalties, when recovered, shall be paid over to the Receiver General to the credit of the "New Immigration Fund:" provided, that no goods so distrained upon shall be sold before the lapse of 14 days after distress made: provided also, that if any person, otherwise than by the authority of the person making such distress, shall remove, during any part of the 14 days last aforesaid, any of the goods so distrained on from the premises whereon such distress shall have been made, he shall be liable to a further penalty of equal amount to that for which such distress shall have been made.

Rewards.

Rewards.

54. In cases of conviction for absence or desertion, the Immigration Agent may award to any policeman, constable, or other person who shall have been active in the apprehension of any immigrant, such sum or sums, not exceeding 6 *d.* for each mile he may have had to travel from the place where the immigrant shall have been apprehended to the residence of the nearest justice, not exceeding in the whole 5 *s.* for each immigrant apprehended, and grant a certificate to each constable, or other person, of the sum awarded to him, signed by the Immigration Agent, and countersigned by the clerk of the peace, or magistrates' clerk, which shall be payable on the warrant of the Governor, at the island treasury, out of the constabulary reward fund.

As to Payment, Detainer, or Abatement of Wages.

55. Upon any complaint made by any employer, or immigrant, the Immigration Agent, by whom such complaint shall be heard, may, in addition to any other order made on such complaint, award to such immigrant the whole or such proportion of the wages of any such immigrant, appearing to be due to him, as such Immigration Agent shall think reasonable, or shall authorise the employer to retain the whole, or any specified portion of such wages.

56. Upon any complaint by any immigrant for non-payment of wages, or damages for breach of contract, or misconduct on the part of his employer, it shall be lawful for the Immigration Agent to make a proportionate abatement out of any sum to be awarded as the wages or damages due to such immigrant, for such days or times as he shall be proved to have been, without the consent of his employer, absent from, or neglecting his service or work; and also for the value of any damage done to the property of his employer, by or through the misconduct, or negligence, or carelessness of any such immigrant; but no immigrant, whose wages shall have been abated for absence, shall be required to give any further service for the period of such absence.

Time within which Complaint to be brought.

57. Except where otherwise directed, no complaint by any employer against any immigrant, or by any immigrant against any employer, shall be entertained, unless the same shall be preferred within 30 days after the occurrence of the subject-matter of such complaint, and upon the hearing of any such complaint, no abatement or deduction shall be made from the amount determined to be due to either party by reason of any misconduct of which such party may have been guilty, at any time exceeding 30 days before the institution of such complaint.

Returns of Sentences on Immigrants by Criminal Jurisdiction.

58. Whenever any indentured immigrant shall be sentenced by any court of criminal jurisdiction, or by any justices, under any law in force, to any term of imprisonment, for any offence against the criminal law of this island, it shall be the duty of the proper officer of such court, or justices, within the period of one calendar month from the date of sentence, to forward to the Agent General a return, setting forth as accurately as may be the distinguishing letter, and number, and name of such immigrant, the name of the estate on which he is indentured, the offence of which he shall have been convicted, and the term of imprisonment to which he shall have been sentenced.

Repayment of Cost of Importation, under 15th Victoria, chapter 39.

59. In respect to immigrants who shall be introduced by means of moneys raised under the provisions of the Acts 15 Vict. c. 39, 16 Vict. c. 20, and 16 Vict. c. 25, two-thirds of the cost of their importation shall be provided for as follows; that is to say, each successive employer of every such immigrant shall, at the time of the execution of any indenture of service, enter into a separate contract with the Agent General of Immigration, engaging to pay to the Agent General, or sub-agent of the district, for the time being, a sum of money, to be ascertained and inserted in such contract (Form No. 9), by instalments, at the rate of one-ninth part, during the first year of industrial residence, and thereafter at the rate of two-ninth parts per annum for each of the remaining years of industrial residence; and also for payment, in the like proportions, of two-thirds of the cost of food and lodging, if incurred, the contribution of food and lodging to be added to that for cost of importation, and the whole to be payable by half-yearly instalments on the 10th March, and 10th September, in each year, the first payment of which instalment shall be made on the 10th March, or 10th September, whichever shall first happen, after the expiration of three months from the date of such indenture; but if the term of industrial residence shall not exceed three years, then the sum payable shall be one-fifth of the proportion of two-thirds of the costs aforesaid, for the first year, and two-fifths for each of the ensuing years.

Repayment of Cost of Importation under other Acts.

60. In respect of immigrants to be introduced by means of moneys to be raised under any Act to be passed, the whole cost of their importation shall be provided for as follows; that is

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is to say, each successive employer of every such immigrant shall, at the time of execution of any indenture of service, enter into a separate contract with the Agent General of Immigration, engaging to pay to the Agent General, or sub-agent of the district for the time being, a sum of money, to be ascertained and inserted in such contract (Form No. 9), by instalments, at the rate of one-ninth part during the first year of industrial residence, and thereafter at the rate of two-ninth parts per annum for each of the remaining years of industrial residence; and the cost of food and lodging, if incurred, shall be added to such instalments, and payable in the like proportions; that is to say, for the first year only one moiety of the sum payable for each subsequent year shall be chargeable; and every such half-yearly instalment shall bear, and be payable with interest, at the rate of 6*l.* per cent. per annum, from the day of the arrival of the immigrant, and shall be made on the 10th March and 10th September, the first instalment to fall due on whichever of those days shall first happen, after the expiration of three months from the date of such contract; and if the term of industrial residence shall not exceed three years, then there shall be paid for the first year one-fifth part of the cost of importation, food, and lodging, if incurred, and for each of the remaining years two-fifth parts thereof, with interest, by half-yearly instalments as aforesaid.

As to Cancellation of Contracts, Cessor of Liability, Execution of New Contracts.

61. Whenever any indenture shall be cancelled, with or without the consent of any employer, and the immigrant shall be re-indentured, the contract entered into by the employer upon the payment of whatever proportion of the cost of importation of such immigrant as shall be then due, including the proportion of any current instalment and interest to the day on which the indenture shall be cancelled, shall be also cancelled in respect to all further instalments to fall due thereon, and the employer to whom the immigrant shall be re-indentured, shall enter into separate contract for payment as aforesaid, of all future instalments, and so *toties quoties* upon every re-indenture of any such immigrant.

62. Upon the death of any immigrant, or other termination of his contract, the payment of all instalments to fall due next after the then current half year, shall cease and determine.

Form of Contract, when Husband and Wife and Family included in One Indenture.

63. Whenever any husband and wife, or husband and wife and child, or children, shall be included in one indenture, one contract shall be entered into as to all so included, for payment of two-thirds of the cost, or the whole cost, as the case shall require, of their introduction, in the proportions, and in the manner before directed, together with interest; and also the cost of food and lodging, if incurred, by the Agent General.

Contract not required for Cost of Importation of Immigrants not Introduced by the Government.

64. The Immigration Agent shall dispense with the execution of any contract for payment of expenses with respect to immigrants introduced otherwise than by the Island Government, and shall endorse upon the contract of service that the cost of introduction has been fully paid and discharged by the employer, and upon the transfer at any time of such services, with the assent of the parties, he shall make a similar endorsement: Provided, nevertheless, that the employers of such immigrants, and the immigrants themselves, shall be amenable to the provisions of this Act in all other respects in which they shall be applicable to industrial immigrants and their employers.

Repayment of Advances.

65. The employer of any indentured immigrant shall pay to the Immigration Agent the amount mentioned in such indenture, as advanced to such immigrant, previous to his embarkation, either by an immediate payment or by half-yearly instalments, at the rate of 1 *s.* per week, at his option, and shall be entitled to deduct the same by weekly instalments from the wages of such immigrants; and the moneys, so paid to the Immigration Agent, shall be paid by him into the Island Treasury, to the credit of the immigration fund, by means of which the immigrant has been introduced.

Refusal or Neglect to enter into Indenture after Application for Immigrants.

66. Every proprietor or manager who shall have made any application for, and who shall afterwards refuse or neglect to enter into the indenture and contract hereby required, shall forfeit and pay to the Immigration Agent, for the time being, for every immigrant allowed to him, whom he shall refuse or neglect to indenture, a sum equal to the amount he would have had to enter into contract to repay, if he had executed such indenture, and the whole amount shall be immediately enforceable: Provided that the Governor may remit or mitigate any such forfeiture.

67. Every person deputed to manage any estate under power of attorney, recorded in the Secretary's Office, shall be deemed the authorised agent of his principal, for the purposes of this

this Act, in the absence of express provision to the contrary in such power, but without prejudice to any right of action of such principal against any such agent who shall have contravened or acted without or against his instructions.

Lien, and Mode of Recovery of Moneys Payable under this Act.

68. All monies payable to the Immigration Agent, in respect to any indentured immigrant, or for refusal or neglect to execute an indenture under the provisions of this Act, shall be a first charge on the estate in respect of which such immigrant shall be under indenture, or would have been under indenture, but for such refusal or neglect, and may be enforced by warrant of distress and sale (Forms Nos. 10 and 11), to be directed by the Agent General, or any sub-agent for the district, to any policeman of the parish where the same shall require to be executed, without any previous information or summons; and the aggregate amount of moneys or penalties in respect of any number of immigrants recoverable by distress warrant, to be executed upon the same estate, may be included in one distress warrant: Provided, that as against mortgagees, or other incumbrancers, or purchasers of any property sold for the payment of any mortgage or other incumbrance, after such mortgagees, incumbrancers, or purchasers shall have entered into possession, no greater amount of arrears shall be enforceable and raisable as a first charge on any estate than the two last half-yearly instalments, which shall have actually become due next before such entry.

Appropriation of Monies due in respect of Immigrants under 15th Victoria, chapter 39, &c.

69. All moneys which shall be received from the employers of immigrants introduced by means of moneys raised under the provisions of the before-mentioned Acts, 15 Vict. c. 39; 16 Vict. c. 25, shall, by the Agent General, be paid, one week after receipt, to the Receiver General, and be by him carried to a separate account, to be called "The One Hundred Thousand Pounds Immigration Loan New Sinking Fund," and the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall have power from time to time, by warrant under his hand, to direct the Receiver General to remit the whole, or such portion as he shall think fit, of the moneys at any time standing to the credit of the said fund, to be invested by the agents appointed, or to be appointed under the provisions of the said Acts, in such of the public funds of Great Britain, in such manner, and in the names of such persons, as the Lord High Treasurer, or the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any three of them, may from time to time direct, and as part of the sinking fund thereby established for the gradual redemption of the principal moneys raised, or to be raised, under these Acts.

Appropriation of Monies due in respect of Immigrants under other Acts.

70. All moneys which shall be received from the employers of immigrants introduced by means of moneys raised under the provisions of any Act which may be passed, shall be paid one week after receipt, by the Agent General, to the Receiver General, and shall be by him carried to a separate account, to be called "The New Immigration Fund."

Return Passage, and Colonization Fund.

71. For the purpose of raising a fund to meet the expense of a return passage for Indian immigrants who shall entitle themselves to claim a return passage to the ports from which they embarked, or for the permanent colonization in this island of such, and any other immigrants, it shall be the duty of the Agent General of Immigration, on or before the 10th day of November in each year, to furnish to the Receiver General, and also to the Governor, a return showing, as far as practicable, the total number of immigrants of all classes introduced by means of money raised under the provisions of the Acts before mentioned, and of an Act passed, or to be passed, for raising funds for such purpose, within the previous 10 years alive in the island on the preceding 30th September, and thereupon the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall, by his warrant, direct the Receiver General to set apart and carry a sum equal to the sum of 20 *s.* for every immigrant who shall appear by such return to have been alive in this island on that day, in each such year, out of any public moneys in his hands unappropriated, to the credit of an account to be opened in his books, to be called "The Immigrants' Colonization and Return Passage Fund."

72. Upon the receipt of such warrant, the Receiver General shall appropriate the amount so directed to be by him set apart, and shall carry the same to the credit of the account so directed to be opened, and shall invest the same, at interest, in such securities in this island, or in the public funds of Great Britain, and accumulate the interest to be from time to time received on such investments, when, and as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall by his warrant direct, until money shall be wanting for the purchase of lands for such immigrants, or for procuring return passages for them.

73. The Receiver General shall, by and out of the moneys which shall from time to time be at the credit of such fund, pay all such warrants as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall direct, on account of the purchase of land for the colonization of immigrants, or as a money commutation in lieu of back passages of Indian immigrants, and such further sums as shall be from time to time required to be expended for the payment of back passages for such immigrants; and for the purpose of providing return passages, it shall be lawful for the Governor to direct the Receiver General to advance any

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moneys which may be from time to time required from the general revenue of the island but to be repaid out of such fund when there shall be sufficient money at the credit thereof wherewith to make the repayment.

74. The Receiver General shall carry to the credit of the same account a sum of 5,000 *l.* from or out of the surplus moneys arising from the export duties under the Act of the 15 Vict. c. 39, after providing for the interest and sinking fund, or so much of the loan as has been raised under the said Act.

Purchase of Land for Grants to Immigrants.

75. Whenever a sufficient number of immigrants shall require to have lands granted to them under the provisions of this Act, the Governor may, with the advice of the Executive Committee, from time to time contract for the absolute purchase, in fee simple, of lands in the proximity of estates whereon immigrants may be located, or any other lands suitable for the purposes of this Act, the title whereto shall be taken in the name of Her Majesty for the purposes of this Act; and the Governor shall also have power, with the like advice, to grant any lands, or the right and title of Her Majesty to any lands, which shall have become forfeited to Her Majesty for non-payment of land tax, or quit rents, or otherwise, for the purposes of this Act.

Ten Acres Commutation, &c.

76. Every Indian immigrant, who shall have completed an industrial residence of five years at the least, under the provisions of this Act, and shall be desirous to commute his right to a back passage for a grant of land or money, shall be entitled to claim, through the Agent General of Immigration, a grant of 10 acres of land, purchased or acquired as aforesaid; and a grant or patent for 10 acres of land shall be made out and given to such immigrant, and he shall be put in possession thereof by the Immigration Agent of the district; and it shall be lawful for the Governor, at the request of every such immigrant, to direct payment of a money equivalent, in lieu of the whole or a portion of the land; and in such last-mentioned case, a lesser quantity only of land as may be agreed upon shall be granted; but no such Indian immigrant shall be entitled to such grant or money payment, until after he shall have completed an industrial residence at least of five years in this island: Provided, that the provisions of this section shall have no effect, unless and until Her Majesty's Government shall sanction the principle of commutation herein contained.

Land Gift.

77. It shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, to give or grant to any immigrant whatsoever, as or by way of reward for meritorious conduct, not exceeding one acre of land for each year of industrial residence he shall have given under indenture, in consideration of the faithful performance and discharge of his duties under such indenture.

Surveys of Land.

78. All grants, and patents for land, under the provisions of this Act, shall have annexed thereto, a plan or diagram of the lands thereby granted or given, as the same shall be laid out after actual survey, by the Crown Surveyor for the county in which the land is situate, to be appointed by the Governor for the purpose.

79. The cost of surveying and laying out lands as aforesaid, shall not exceed the sum of 30 *s.* for every 10 acres.

Relief from Taxes—Provision for Expenses of Surveys and Grants.

80. All such lands shall be acquitted and discharged of all arrear of land tax and quit rents, and the grant or patent thereof, and the survey thereof shall be made, and all expenses paid at the charge of "The Immigrants' Colonization and Return Passage Fund;" and the same grant or patent shall be recorded and delivered to the immigrant entitled thereto, free of cost, charge, or expense to him, and which expenses shall be paid, under warrant of the Governor, by the Receiver General.

81. Every person who shall receive a grant or patent of land under the provisions of this Act, shall be exempted from all manner of direct taxes, and charges, and assessments, public and parochial, whatever (any taxes raised by way of licence, or on wheel carriages, horsekind, or horned stock excepted), for the space of three years after such grant or patent shall be made.

Permissive Occupation.

82. The Immigration Agent, with the sanction of the Governor, may permit any immigrant at any time, and from time to time, during his period of industrial residence, to occupy any land purchased or required for the purposes of this Act, which he may sanction, for such time, and upon such conditions as the Governor shall determine, so as such occupation shall not prevent or interfere with the due and faithful discharge of the services of such immigrant under his indenture, and the provisions of this Act, and no such immigrant shall be liable to any direct or parochial tax or charge, in respect of such permissive occupation.

Recovery

Recovery of Possession.

83. At any time after the expiration of 30 days after a notice in writing, signed by an Immigration Agent, requiring the delivery up of the possession of any land he may have been permitted to occupy, shall have been served upon any immigrant, or upon his wife, widow, child, or other members of his family, of the age of (16 years) or upwards, or in case no person shall be found in the occupation of the premises, then, at any time after the expiration of (30 days) after notice shall have been affixed to and left upon some conspicuous part of the premises, if possession shall not have been delivered up agreeably to the requirement of such notice, it shall be lawful for the Immigration Agent of the parish wherein such land is situate, having first summoned the defendant to appear before him, by warrant, under his hand (Form No. 12), to order any policeman, constable, or other peace officer to enter upon any such lands, and any dwelling-house and buildings thereon, and to remove every person who shall be found thereon or therein, together with his goods and chattels, out of the same, and to put any person appointed by the Immigration Agent in possession thereof; and any immigrant, or other person whosoever, who, after possession shall have been obtained, either by voluntary delivery, or under compulsory process as aforesaid, knowingly retake, or hold possession of any such land shall, on conviction thereof, be liable to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for every such offence for not exceeding the space of three months.

Forms.

84. The several forms in the annexed schedule, or forms to the like effect, shall be valid and effectual for the purposes of this Act.

Repeal of Acts.

85. The following Acts, and parts of Acts, shall be repealed; that is to say, the 10th section of the Act made and passed in the fifth year of Her Majesty's reign, c. 43; the Act made and passed in the 15th year of Her said Majesty's reign, c. 38, c. 40, and c. 41; the Act made and passed in the 16th year of Her said Majesty's reign, c. 18, c. 29, and c. 30; the Act made and passed in the 17th year of Her said Majesty's reign, c. 6, and c. 36; the Act made and passed in the 18th year of Her said Majesty's reign, c. 21, and c. 52; the Act made and passed in the 20th year of Her said Majesty's reign, c. 8; and the several clauses of the Act passed in the 15th year of Her said Majesty's reign, c. 39, from the 16th section inclusive, to the end of the said Act; and the several Acts and clauses of Acts specially recited and repealed in and by such several Acts, as also all other Acts and clauses of Acts at any time heretofore repealed by the said therein specially recited Acts: Provided always, that all acts done, and all existing contracts and agreements, made and entered into under the authority of any such Act or Acts, shall continue in force for the time they were originally entered upon, and may be enforced, and breaches thereof punished, as if this Act had not been passed.

Commencement, and Short Title.

86. This Act shall take effect on the first day of January next, and may be cited for all purposes as "The Immigration Act, 1858."

SCHEDULE OF FORMS.

No. 1.

FORM of Notice to Proprietors, or Managers, requiring Immigrants to be Allotted on Arrival.

18

PROPRIETORS, or managers of estates, desirous of indenturing immigrants on their arrival in this island, are requested to notify to me the name and residence of the proprietor, the estate on which it is proposed to indenture immigrants, the number of immigrants wanted for such estate, the particular description of the building or buildings in which such immigrants are to be located, and the country or place from which the proprietor is desirous such immigrants shall be introduced; such notification to be in the form annexed to "The Immigration Act, 1858," or as nearly thereto as circumstances will permit, otherwise no attention will be paid to the application.

A. B., Agent General of Immigration.

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No. 2.

FORM of Application for Immigrants.

Sir, 18

PURSUANT to the notice in the "Gazette," by authority, dated 18 I beg to intimate to you, on behalf of my constituents, *A. B.* of *C. D.* of, &c. (describing each proprietor), the proprietors of sugar estate, or otherwise (according to the nature of the property, naming it), in the parish of that they are desirous to indenture on that estate immigrants, to be introduced from (here specify the class of immigrants and country, or if desirous of the services of any description of immigrants, "any country or place the Governor may think proper"); and on behalf of my constituents, I hereby express their willingness to accept the services of so many of such immigrants as shall be allotted to them, not exceeding the number above applied for, upon the terms and conditions of "The Immigration Act, 1858," immediately after the arrival of such immigrants, or that they will forfeit and pay to the Agent General of Immigration, for the time being, a sum equal in the whole amount they would be required to pay for immigrants allotted to them, if after their introduction such immigrants should have been indentured to them, according to the provisions of this Act, and the description of the building in which the immigrants are to be located, is as stated hereunder; my power of attorney bears date (specify date), and is recorded in the Secretary's office, liber folio .

I am, &c.

E. F., Attorney to the above-named.

To G. H., Esq., Agent General of Immigration.

No. 3.

REGISTER of Immigrants Indentured into the Island of Jamaica under the Immigration Act, 1858.

Distinguishing Letter.	Distinguishing Number.	Name of Immigrant.	Age.	Sex.	Country.	Time of Arrival.	Place whence Shipped.	Vessel.	Cost of Passage.	Average Cost of Importation payable by Employer.	Whether entitled to a Return Passage or not.	At whose Expense introduced.	To whom Indentured.	Estate on which Located.	Advances to be repaid out of Wages.						Date of Death.	Date of Certificate of Industrial Residence.	Date of Passport.	Port from which Passport returned to be cancelled.	Remarks.

DISTINGUISHING LETTER.

1. Of Immigrants from Great Britain, the British West Indies, and Possessions in North America - - - - - - - - - - - - - A.
2. Of Immigrants from the United States of America - - - - - - - - B.
3. Of Immigrants from Madeira, the Azores, the Canaries, and the Cape de Verde Islands - - - - - - - - - - - - - - C.
4. Of Indian Immigrants - - - - - - - - - - - - - D.
5. Of Asiatic Immigrants - - - - - - - - - - - - - E.
6. Of African Immigrants - - - - - - - - - - - - - F.

Other classes, with other distinguishing Letters, may be added, if requisite.

No. 4.

JAMAICA, ss.

This indenture, made the day of 185 between *A. B.* immigrant labourer (A. No.) or *C. D.* Immigration Agent of this colony, on behalf of *A. B.* &c. of the one part, and *E. F.* of in the said island ( ), of the other part, witnesseth, That in virtue of "The Immigration Act, 1858," and in consideration of the covenants on the part of the said *E. F.* hereinafter contained, he, the said *A. B.*

A. B. doth hereby bind himself to the said *E. F.* for the term of years, to be computed from the date hereof; and doth hereby covenant with the said *E. F.*, his heirs and assigns, that he, the said *A. B.*, will, during the said term, or the continuance of these presents, truly and faithfully serve the said *E. F.*, his heirs and assigns, as labourer on estate, in the parish of according to the laws and regulations made, or hereafter to be made concerning immigrant labourers in this island; and the said *E. F.* doth hereby covenant with the said *A. B.* that he, the said *E. F.*, will, during the said term, or the continuance of these presents, provide the said *A. B.* with suitable and sufficient lodging, medicine, and medical attendance (a), and (during three months from the date of this indenture, with food and clothing, according to the annexed scale;) and such medicine, medical attendance, food, and lodging, shall be in conformity with the laws or regulations made, or hereafter to be made, concerning immigrant labourers in this island; and also will pay wages to the said *A. B.* (b) (during the next three months, at the rate of per diem, and after the expiration of three months,) at the same rate which may be at the time paid to the labourers not under written agreement, working on said estate, according to the quantity of work performed, being at the rate of not less than per subject, nevertheless, to deductions at the following rate, per ("week," or "month," as the case may be,) viz.—

Medical attendance - - - - - -			
Lodgings - - - - - - - - -			
Repayment of advances, amounting in all to -			
TOTAL Deductions per (week) - - -			

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands.

A. B. or (*C. D.*).
E. F.

N. B.—The passages between brackets lettered (a) and (b) may be omitted if the Immigration Agent shall see fit. If they are inserted, the Immigration Agent must add a scale of food.

No. 5.

RETURN for the Year commencing 1 October 185 , ending 30 September 185 , of the Entire Number of Immigrants Located on the Property of Estate, in the Parish

DISTINGUISHING LETTERS OF CLASS.

	A.		B.		C.		D.		E.		F.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Number at last Return - - - - - - - -												
Increase by Birth - - - - - - - - -												
„ by Transfer from other Estates - - -												
„ by Return of Deserters absent at Date of last Return.												
Decrease by Death - - - - - - - -												
„ by Transfer to other Estates - - - -												
„ by Desertion - - - - - - - -												

Appendix, No. 15.

SPECIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

Name of Infant.	Date of Birth.	Sex.	Name of Father.	His Distinguishing Letter and Number.	Name of Mother.	Her Distinguishing Letter and Number.

NOTIFICATION OF DESERTERS RETURNED, WHO WERE ABSENT AT DATE OF LAST RETURN.

Name of Deserters.	Sex.	Distinguishing Letter and Number.	Date of Desertions during Year.	Date of Return during Year.

SPECIFICATION OF DEATHS.

Name of Deceased.	Sex.	Distinguishing Letter and Number.	Date of Death.	Cause of Death.

SPECIFICATION OF DESERTERS DURING THE YEAR.

Names.	Sex.	Distinguishing Letter. and Number.	Dates of Desertion.	Dates of Return during Year.

I, *A. B.* owner of estate, the property of do hereby declare that the above five returns contain, to the best of my knowledge and belief, returns of the number of immigrants on the said estate on the 1st day of October 185 , the date of the last return, and on the 1st day of October 185 , as also of the increase and decrease, since the last return, arising from births or deaths, transfers from, or to other estates; the return of deserters absent therefrom on the preceding 1st October, but who afterwards returned to the estate; as also of cases of desertion from the estate during the year ending 30th September 185 .

A. B.

Declared by the above-named *A. B.* before me, this day of 185 .

J. P.

No. 6.

FORM of Certificate of Industrial Residence.

THESE are to certify, that (*A.* 21), an immigrant, introduced into this colony from on the day of 18 having served under indenture for the full period of years of industrial residence, is now at liberty to abandon service, and is freed and discharged from all obligations of industrial residence, or of service, except the obligation to obtain a passport previous to his leaving the island under "The Immigration Act, 1858," or any other Act relating to immigration.

(signed) *A. B.* Agent General of Immigrants,
(or as the case may be.)

No. 7.

FORM of Passport.

THESE are to certify, that (*A.* 21), an immigrant introduced into this island from on the day of , having obtained his certificate of industrial residence, and having applied to me for a passport, is entitled to depart from this island, and the master, or other person in charge of any vessel, is hereby authorised and empowered to receive such immigrant on board his vessel, for the purpose of carrying him off this island, taking from the said immigrant this passport, and depositing the same with the officer of Her Majesty's Customs of the port from which the vessel may clear, in order that the same may, by such officer, be returned to the Agent General of Immigration to be cancelled.

(signed)

No. 8.

CERTIFICATE of Exemption from Industrial Service.

I DO hereby certify, that (*A.* 22), an immigrant introduced into this island from hath been by direction of the Governor exempted from further industrial residence, in consequence of (state the cause).

No. 9.

FORM of Contract for Payment of Expenses.

WE, *A. B.* of, &c. *C. D.* of by *G. H.* of our true and lawful attorney, duly authorised in this behalf, do hereby contract and engage with the Agent General of Immigration, or the sub-agent of the district wherein the parish of shall be situate, for the time being, such portions of the sum of (being two-thirds of the, or the whole, as the case may require), average cost of importation of, and the cost of food and lodging supplied to (*A.* 21) an immigrant from* indentured to the said for years, by indenture, of equal date herewith, and located on estate in the said parish of by half-yearly instalments, on the 10th day of March and the 10th day of September, in each year, during which such indenture shall continue in force; and the parties in possession of the said estate shall be entitled to the services of such immigrant, at the rate of for the first year's service, terminating on the day of and thereafter at the rate of for each subsequent year of service, the first instalment to be paid on the day of next; and in case the indenture shall be determined by the death, or other termination of the industrial service of the said immigrant, during any current half-year, the whole of the instalment for the half year, to be payable at the, and thereof, together with interest, at the rate of 6 *l.* per centum per annum, on each instalment, from the date hereof until the same shall be paid; where interest may be payable, the monies hereby intended to be secured to be deemed a prior charge upon the said estate, and to be recovered and enforced under the provisions of "The Immigration Act, 1858," or any other Act in force relating to immigrants.

As witness our hands, this day of

A. B.
C. D. } by *G. H.* their Attorney.

* If the immigrant has been re-indentured, insert "originally indentured to by indenture, dated the day of and then located on estate, but now re-indentured to the said for year, by indenture of equal date herewith, and proceed, as above, except that if the first year's service is at an end, the expressions alluding thereto shall be omitted, and the instalments declared to be payable at the rate of for each year.

Appendix, No. 15.

No. 10.

FORM of Authority to Distrain for Instalments due in respect of Indentured Immigrant

WHEREAS default hath been made in payment of the several instalments due under contracts entered into by *A. B.* of *C. D.* of &c. in respect of immigrants located on estate, in the parish of that is to say, two instalments of pounds each for the half-year ending the day of and the day of under contract dated the day of in respect of an immigrant named (*A.* 21) from one instalment of pounds for the half-year ending the day of under contract dated the day of in respect of three immigrants named (*B.* 21) (*B.* 22) and (*B.* 23), and which several instalments amount in the aggregate to the sum of pounds. These are therefore to command you to levy the said sum of pounds by distress of any goods and chattels, to be found upon the said estate, in the said parish, upon which a landlord might distrain for rent in arrear; and if, within 14 days next after such distress by you taken, with or without previous appraisement, the said sum, and the charges of distraining and keeping the same, shall not be paid, then that you do sell the said goods and chattels so by you distrained; and out of the money arising by such sale, that you do pay the said sum of pounds to me, to be accounted for under the provisions of "The Immigration Act, 1858," or any other Act in force relating to immigration, retaining the overplus, on demand, to the proprietor, overseer, or manager of the said estate.

Given under my hand, this day of

To any policeman of the parish of

If interest is payable under any contract, then insert the words "which several instalments, together with the further sum of for interest, accrued due thereon," which several instalments, and the interest thereon, amount in the aggregate to the sum of £

No. 11.

FORM of Authority to Distrain after neglect to enter into Indenture.

WHEREAS immigrants from have been allotted to *A. B.* of *C. D.* of &c. for the purpose of being indentured on estate, in the parish of pursuant to their application of date the day of 18 . (through *E. F.* their attorney) to *G. H.* esquire, the (then) Agent General of Immigration, the said have neglected and refused to enter into the indenture and contract required by "The Immigration Act, 1858," and have forfeited and become liable, immediately to pay the sum of pounds, being the amount which they would have been required to enter into contract to repay, if they had entered into indenture and contract in respect of such immigrants, in accordance with such application, (which forfeiture, and sum of pounds his Excellency the Governor hath been pleased to mitigate and reduce to the sum of pounds (if such be the case): these are therefore (&c. as in preceding form, filling up the amount to be distrained on, with the full amount of forfeiture, or the mitigated sum, if the same shall be reduced).

No. 12.

FORM of Warrant to remove Immigrant from Land occupied by him.

JAMAICA, ss. }
Parish }

To any policeman, constable, or other peace officer.

WHEREAS complaint hath been made unto upon the oath of and other evidence now produced to me that *E. F.* occupies the piece or parcel of land, situate at by the permission of the Immigration Agent, with the sanction of the Governor and Executive Committee, and having been duly required to yield and deliver up possession or occupation thereof, hath refused and neglected to deliver up the possession thereof; and the said *E. F.* having been summoned to appear before me this day, to show cause why he should not be removed from the said land, and having shown no sufficient cause for that purpose (or not having appeared), I do hereby authorise and require you, with such assistance as shall be necessary, to enter into the said land, and every house and building thereupon, in the day time, and remove the said *E. F.* and all such persons as shall be found therein, together with his and their goods out of such land, house, and buildings, and premises, and to put into the possession thereof.

Given under my hand, this day of 18

Appendix, No. 16.

(No. 4239 of 1858.) Appendix, No. 16.

JAMAICA, ss.

Cap. III.

An ACT for raising Funds to defray the Expenses attendant on the Introduction of Immigrants into this Island.

Whereas it is expedient to authorise the raising of monies for the introduction of immigrants into this island. Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:— Preamble.

1. The Governor may, with the advice of the Executive Committee, from time to time, as shall be deemed expedient, borrow and raise in this island, or in Great Britain, such sums of money, not exceeding the sum of 50,000 *l.* in any one year, as shall be required to be raised, for the purpose of defraying, in the first instance, the expense of introducing immigrants into this island, under and subject to the provisions of the "Immigration Act, 1858;" and shall have power to appoint an agent or agents in Great Britain, for the purpose of raising and securing the repayment of monies there borrowed. The Governor empowered to borrow sums not exceeding 50,000 *l.* per annum for immigration.

2. The monies borrowed in this island, and repayable here, shall be secured by bond, debenture, or otherwise, to be signed by any two members of the Executive Committee, and countersigned by the Receiver General; and the monies borrowed in Great Britain, and repayable there, shall be secured by bond, debenture, or otherwise, to be signed by the agent, or if more than one agent shall be appointed, then by at least two agents, to be appointed as aforesaid; and such bonds or debentures shall be in such form as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, or such agent or agents, shall determine, and shall be transferable and negotiable, and be made redeemable six years at furthest after the date thereof; and every such bond or debenture shall be drawn for a sum not less than 200 *l.* sterling, and shall bear interest at a yearly rate, not exceeding 6 *l.* in the 100 *l.*, and which interest shall by such bond or debenture, if drawn in this island, be made payable half yearly at the island treasury, or, if drawn in Great Britain, be made payable half yearly at some place in London, to be therein named. How such sums to be secured and made payable.

3. In case any bond or debenture shall be lost or destroyed or be defaced, the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, if the same shall be payable in this island, or the agent, or if there shall be more than one agent, any two agents, if the same shall be payable in Great Britain, may renew any such bond or debenture by substituting therefor a copy in all respects of the lost, destroyed, or defaced bond, or debenture, except the signatures to be attached thereto, upon satisfactory indemnity being given, in case of the production of any bond or debenture alleged to have been lost or mislaid, against any loss, damage, or expense, to be incurred in making or resisting payment of the original bond or debenture; or in case of a defaced bond or debenture, upon the delivery up of the same to be cancelled, and which defaced or cancelled bonds or debentures shall be carefully preserved. Lost debentures may be replaced in certain cases.

4. All monies to be so raised, and the interest thereon shall be secured upon and be the only charge upon the monies directed by "The Immigration Act, 1858," to be carried to the credit of the "New Immigration Fund Account." All such loans to be an only charge on "The New Immigration Fund."

5. The credit of this island shall stand pledged for the repayment of any loan to be raised under this Act, and the annual interest thereof: Provided always, that the revenue to be derived by the means and under the provisions of "The Immigration Act, 1858," shall be in the first place solely applicable to such repayment; and in case of any deficiency after the application thereof, that such deficiency be paid and discharged by such means and out of and from such funds as the Legislature may provide, as and when such deficiency may arise. The credit of the island pledged to their repayment. Proviso.

6. The Receiver General shall, from time to time, pay the half-yearly interest on the warrant of the Governor, as the same shall fall due, on all bonds or debentures payable in this island, and shall, on the warrant of the Governor, remit to the agent or agents in Great Britain, at a convenient time before the same shall fall due, such monies as shall be required for payment of the half yearly interest, to fall due and to be payable in Great Britain, such interest to be payable out of any monies then at the credit of the "New Immigration Fund Account." Receiver General to pay interest half yearly on warrant of the Governor.

7. For the gradual redemption of the principal monies to be from time to time raised under the authority of this Act, there shall be established a sinking fund, to which sinking fund there shall be carried and appropriated in each year, all monies received in such year A sinking fund to be created and maintained.

Appendix, No. 16.

from the employers of immigrants in repayment of the cost of importation, and the Receiver General, under warrant from the Governor, shall annually remit such monies to the agent or agents in Great Britain, to be invested in the public funds of Great Britain in such manner as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall direct, such remittance to be made out of any monies then at the credit of "The New Immigration Fund Account."

Limit of monies to be borrowed.

8. The utmost amount of monies to be borrowed under the authority of this Act, shall not at any time exceed the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds in the whole, over and above the monies at the credit of "The New Immigration Fund" and those invested as aforesaid.

Short title of Act.

9. This Act shall take effect on the 1st January next, and may be cited for all purposes as the "Immigration Loan Act, 1858."

Passed the Assembly, this 24th day of November 1858.

(signed) *C. McLarty Morales,*
Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 25th day of November 1858.

(signed) *W. G. Stewart,*
Clerk to the Legislative Council.

I consent, this 26th day of November 1858.

(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

(Vera copia extur.)
(signed) *W. G. Stewart,* Sec.

Appendix, No. 17.

Appendix, No. 17.

ANNO VICESIMO SECUNDO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

(No. 4240 of 1858.)

JAMAICA, ss.

CAP. II.

AN ACT to Provide for the Introduction into this Island of Chinese Labourers at the Expense of Private Persons.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for the introduction into this island of Chinese labourers at the expense of private parties: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:

1. Upon the arrival in this island of any ship having Chinese labourers on board, the Immigration Agent General shall, with the Health Officer of the port, forthwith proceed on board such vessel, and, with the assistance of such officer, shall ascertain, by personal inspection of the vessel, and of the passengers therein, and of the emigration papers furnished to the master of the said vessel, in pursuance of the "Chinese Passengers' Act, 1855," of the Imperial Parliament, whether the provisions of the said Act have been complied with or not, and shall report to the Governor respecting the state of such vessel, and the treatment of the passengers therein, and whether there appear to be any grounds for proceeding against the said vessel, or the master thereof, under the provisions of the said Act, and respecting all other such matters as the Governor may direct.

2. All written contracts for the performance of any labour or service of agriculture in this island, which shall be made with any Chinese labourer, male or female, who shall have left China or Hong Kong for this island after the passing of this Act, shall be binding on the parties thereto for the period named therein, not exceeding the period of five years, to be computed from the day of the landing of such labourer in this island: provided that every such contract shall be signed with the names or marks of the contracting parties, or of persons lawfully acting on their behalf, and shall be attested by the immigration officer at the port of embarkation, who shall declare that the labourer, party to such contract, signed the same voluntarily, and with a due understanding of its effect: provided also, that every such contract shall conform to the following conditions:

3. Every such contract shall secure to the labourer making the same the right to receive, in lieu of any fixed wages specified therein, at the rate of wages which may from time to time be paid to unindentured labourers working on the estate on which he shall be employed, every such contract shall bind the employer to furnish to the labourer, free of charge, suitable lodging, and, when sick, suitable and sufficient medicines, medical attendance, and hospital accommodation, every such contract may be terminated by the labourer, party thereto, at the expiration of the third year thereof, on payment to the Immigration Agent General

General of ten pounds, or, at the expiration of the fourth year thereof, on payment of five pounds, every such contract may bind the labourer to repay to his employer, at such rate, not exceeding four shillings a month, as may be determined by the Governor, such specified sum, not exceeding two pounds eight shillings, as may have been advanced to him before leaving China, every such contract shall, on the arrival of the labourer, be submitted to the Immigration Agent General, who shall and may make such alterations therein, for the benefit of the labourer, as he shall judge necessary, to make the same conformable to the above conditions, and shall thereupon record and countersign the same; and no such contract or altered contract shall be binding on any labourer till so countersigned; such contract may be made in the form contained in the annexed schedule, and at their expiration may be renewed for a period not exceeding three years, every such contract or renewed contract shall be deemed to be an indenture, and, during the currency of the same, every Chinese labourer shall be deemed to be an immigrant within the meaning of "The Immigration Act, 1858."

4. If it shall be established before any Sub-Agent of Immigration, or Inspector of Immigrants, on complaint preferred by any Chinese labourer, that such labourer is not provided by his employer with sufficient work to enable him to earn a just amount of wages according to the current rate of wages, under the terms of any such contract as aforesaid, such officer shall report the same to the Governor, who shall declare his contract to be cancelled; and thereupon it shall be lawful for the Immigration Agent, with the sanction of the Governor, to cause such labourer to be indentured to some other employer, on the terms, as near as may be, of the said contract, for a period not exceeding the unexpired period of his term of service.

5. All sums received by the Immigration Agent General from any Chinese labourer, in virtue of the third article of the second section of this Act, shall be paid over by him to the person who may have defrayed the expense of introducing such labourer, subject nevertheless to a ratcable deduction, in case the Government shall have paid any part of the expense.

6. The words "Governor," "Immigration Agent-General," "written contract," "plantation," and "employer," where used in this Act, or in the annexed Schedule, shall bear the meaning assigned to them in "The Immigration Act, 1858."

SCHEDULE.

It is agreed between A. B., Chinese labourer, and C. D., acting on behalf of E. F., proprietor of the plantation (s) (x and z) in the island of Jamaica, that A. B. shall serve the said E. F. on (one of) the said plantation (s) in the growing or manufacturing of articles, the produce of such plantation (s), for the term of five years, from the day on which A. B. shall land in Jamaica: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for A. B. to terminate the said agreement at the expiration of three years, on payment of the sum of ten pounds; or, at the end of four years, on the payment of the sum of five pounds: and it is further agreed that E. F. shall pay to A. B. the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under contract or indenture working on the same plantation, not being less than at the rate of * a-day (which wages shall be paid on the last day of every week), and that E. F. shall supply A. B., free of cost, with suitable lodgings, and with such medicines and medical attendance and hospital accommodation as A. B. may need when sick; and it is further agreed, that if the said plantation shall come into the possession of any other person than the said E. F., A. B. shall be bound to serve such other person, if required to do so, on the same plantation and on the above terms; and it is further agreed, that E. F. may deduct from the wages of A. B., at a rate of four shillings a month, the total sum of not more than (two pounds eight shillings), which A. B. acknowledges himself to have received in advance before leaving China.

(4239.)

ANNO VICESIMO SECUNDO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

JAMAICA, ss.

CAP. III.

AN ACT for Raising Funds to Defray the Expenses attendant on the Introduction of Immigrants into this Island.

WHEREAS it is expedient to authorise the raising of monies for the introduction of immigrants into this island; be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. The Governor may, with the advice of the Executive Committee, from time to time, as shall be deemed expedient, borrow and raise, in this island, or in Great Britain, such sums

* The rate of wages must be filled up by the agent of the party introducing the labourers.

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sums of money, not exceeding the sum of 50,000 *l.*, in any one year, as shall be required to be raised for the purpose of defraying, in the first instance, the expense of introducing immigrants into this island, under and subject to the provisions of "The Immigration Act, 1858," and shall have power to appoint an agent or agents in Great Britain for the purpose of raising and securing the re-payment of monies there borrowed.

2. The monies borrowed in this island, and re-payable here, shall be secured by bond, debenture, or otherwise, to be signed by any two members of the Executive Committee, and countersigned by the Receiver General, and the monies borrowed in Great Britain, and re-payable there, shall be secured by bond, debenture, or otherwise, to be signed by the agent, or, if more than one agent shall be appointed, then by at least two agents, to be appointed as aforesaid, and such bonds, or debentures, shall be in such form as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, or such agent or agents, shall determine, and shall be transferable and negotiable, and be made redeemable six years at furthest after the date thereof, and every such bond or debenture shall be drawn for a sum not less than 200 *l.* sterling, and shall bear interest at a yearly rate not exceeding 6 *l.* in the 100 *l.*, and which interest shall, by such bond or debenture, if drawn in this island, be made payable half yearly at the island treasury, or if drawn in Great Britain, be made payable half yearly at some place in London, to be therein named.

3. In case any bond, or debenture, shall be lost, or destroyed, or be defaced, the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, if the same shall be payable in this island, or the agent, or if there shall be more than one agent, any two agents, if the same shall be payable in Great Britain, may renew any such bond or debenture, by substituting therefor a copy in all respects of the lost, destroyed, or defaced bond, or debenture, except the signatures to be attached thereto, upon satisfactory indemnity being given, in case of the production of any bond, or debenture, alleged to have been lost or mislaid, against any loss, damage, or expense, to be incurred in making or resisting payment of the original bond or debenture, or in case of a defaced bond or debenture, upon the delivery up of the same to be cancelled, and which defaced or cancelled bonds, or debentures, shall be carefully preserved.

4. All monies to be so raised, and the interest thereon, shall be secured upon, and be the only charge upon the monies directed by "The Immigration Act, 1858," to be carried to the credit of "The New Immigration Fund Account."

5. The credit of this island shall stand pledged for the repayment of any loan to be raised under this Act, and the annual interest thereof; provided always, that the revenue to be derived by the means and under the provisions of "The Immigration Act, 1858," shall be in the first place solely applicable to such repayment, and in case of any deficiency, after the application thereof, that such deficiency be paid and discharged by such means and out of and from such funds as the Legislature may provide as and when such deficiency may arise.

6. The Receiver General shall, from time to time, pay the half yearly interest on the warrant of the Governor, as the same shall fall due, on all bonds, or debentures, payable in this island, and shall, on the warrant of the Governor, remit to the agent or agents in Great Britain, at a convenient time before the same shall fall due, such monies as shall be required for payment of the half yearly interest, to fall due and to be payable in Great Britain, such interest to be payable out of any monies then at the credit of the "New Immigration Fund Account."

7. For the gradual redemption of the principal monies to be from time to time raised under the authority of this Act, there shall be established a sinking fund, to which sinking fund there shall be carried and appropriated in each year all monies received in such year from the employers of immigrants, in repayment of the cost of importation, and the Receiver General, under warrant from the Governor, shall annually remit such monies to the agent or agents in Great Britain, to be invested in the public funds of Great Britain, in such manner as the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall direct, such remittance to be made out of any monies then at the credit of "The New Immigration Fund Account."

8. The utmost amount of monies to be borrowed, under the authority of this Act, shall not at any time exceed the sum of 150,000 *l.* in the whole, over and above the monies at the credit of "The New Immigration Fund," and those invested as aforesaid.

9. This Act shall take effect on the 1st January next, and may be cited, for all purposes, as the "Immigration Loan Act, 1858."

Appendix, No. 18.

(4241 of 1858.) Appendix, No. 18.

ANNO VICESIMO SECUNDO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

JAMAICA, ss.

CAP. VIII.

AN ACT for Promoting the Education and Industrial Training of the Children of Immigrants.

WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the education and industrial training of the children of immigrants; be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "The Immigrant's Industrial Schools Act, 1858."

2. It shall be lawful for any Immigration Agent to order the child of any immigrant under indenture, introduced into this island after the passing of this Act, with the consent of such immigrant, or any immigrant's child, being an orphan, or abandoned by his parents, to be sent to any certified industrial school within the meaning of "The Industrial Schools Act, 1857," or any Act in aid, or amendment of the same, where such schools shall be conveniently situate, to be fed, taught, employed, maintained, and taken care of at such school, in the same manner, in all respects, as the native children thereat, and the provisions of the recited Act, and any Act in aid, or amendment thereof, shall be incorporated with this Act, and, so far as the same may be respectively applicable, extended to, or in respect of, every child sent to any such school, under the authority of this Act.

3. When any Immigration Agent shall order the child of any immigrant to be sent to any such "Certified Industrial School," such agent shall, within fourteen days after giving such order, make a return in duplicate to the Agent General of Immigration of the sex, name, and age of every such child, and of the date of such order, and such return shall be countersigned by the manager of such industrial school, and such Agent General shall transmit one copy of such return to the Secretary of the Executive Committee, within seven days after the receipt thereof by him.

Appendix, No. 19.

(No. 4268 of 1858.) Appendix, No. 19.

JAMAICA, ss.

CAP. XXXII.

AN ACT to amend the "Industrial Schools' Act, 1857" (Twenty-first Victoria, Chapter Forty-one).

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the "Industrial Schools Act, 1857," twenty-first Victoria, chapter forty-one: Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council and Assembly, of this island, and by the authority of the same, as follows:— Preamble.

1. On application of the parent or guardian, or nearest adult relative, or of any other person, on good security being found for the future good behaviour of any child, sent to any certified industrial school within the meaning of the recited Act, it shall be lawful for the Governor to order such child to be discharged therefrom, and the sufficiency of such security shall be in the judgment of the Governor, and his order in this behalf may be, *mutatis mutandis*, in the form, or to the effect of the form G., to the recited Act annexed. The Governor may order discharge of children from industrial school in certain cases.

2. In case of any child absconding, or repeatedly deserting from any such certified industrial school, it shall be lawful for the managers to cause to be inflicted on such child such moderate whipping at any time, as in their judgment may be advisable, or to confine such child in solitary confinement, and to place him on a diet of bread and water, for such period as such managers may think advisable. Children deserting from industrial school may be punished.

3. Where any child shall be sent to any such certified industrial school, by the order of the judge of any court, or the justices in petty sessions, it shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, by his warrant, to direct payment to the managers of such school, out of the annual fund voted for the penitentiaries and prisons' department The Governor may order payment for children committed to industrial school at the rate payable for penitentiary maintenance.

Appendix, No. 19.

department of such sum, or any part of such sum as would have been payable or appropriable for the maintenance in any penitentiary or prison of such child, if he had been sentenced to imprisonment therein, instead of being sent to such certified industrial school.

Passed the Assembly, this 30th day of December 1858.

(signed) *C. M'Larty Morales,*
Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 30th day of December 1858.

(signed) *W. G. Stewart,*
Clerk to the Legislative Council.

I consent this 31st day of December 1858.

(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

(Vera copia extur.)

(signed) *W. G. Stewart,* Secretary.

Appendix, No. 20.

(No. 117.)

Appendix, No. 20.

COPY of DESPATCH from Right Hon. Sir *E. B. Lytton,* Bart., to Governor *Darling.*

Sir, Downing-street, 15 April 1859.

* *Vide* page 271.

I HAVE had under my consideration your Despatch, No. 152,* of the 26th November, enclosing (with other enactments) "An Act to amend the Laws relating to Immigrants, and to provide for repayment of the Expenses attendant upon their introduction and subsequent Colonization in this Island."

It has given me great satisfaction to recognise in this Act a cordial disposition on the part of the Legislature of Jamaica to meet the views of Her Majesty's Government as expressed in Lord Stanley's Despatch of the 16th April last, No. 17, and in the model Immigration Law sent out in the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch of the 7th March 1854, and I transmit to you herewith an Order of the Queen in Council, leaving the Act to its operation.

I fully participate in the sentiments entertained by Lord Stanley and by our predecessors for more than ten years past, respecting the importance of immigration, whether viewed as promoting the restoration of agricultural and commercial prosperity in the British Sugar Colonies, or as aiding the cause of humanity by an effective competition with that produce of sugar which is the result of slave labour. Nor is it, in my estimation, of less moment as including a beneficent provision for large portions of those populations of the East which are at all times pressing on the means of subsistence, and occasionally exposed to the severest visitations of famine and pestilence.

Entertaining in common with my predecessors these views of the benefits of coolie immigration into the West Indies, I rejoice to find that the Legislature of Jamaica has shown itself ready and willing to remove every obstacle which might have interfered with the endeavour to give them effect; and I am happy to acknowledge that the present enactment of the Jamaica Legislature does not only obviate nearly all the material objections made by Lord Stanley to the last, but in one important particular goes beyond what had been required on behalf of the immigrant, inasmuch as the term for an original contract is reduced from three years to two, and the immigrant will now have the uncontrolled choice of his employers after the second year, the sole condition being that he shall pass the three remaining years of his industrial residence under one, two, or three contracts, of not less than twelve months each, unless he shall prefer to commute them for the sum of 2*l.* 10*s.* for each year. His condition at the end of the total five years is to be that of absolute choice both as to what labour he will perform and for whom he will perform it. This, with the power of returning to India at his own cost after five years' industrial, and at the public cost after ten years' total residence, affords him every essential privilege which has been claimed for him by Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India.

You are no doubt aware that petitions and remonstrances against the confirmation of this Act have been addressed to Parliament and to Her Majesty's Government from many parts of the country and from numerous bodies whose motives and feelings are entitled to respect. I am persuaded that those who have thus addressed Her Majesty's Government labour under a total misapprehension of the character and results of the system which they deprecate, and that were they to apply themselves to the consideration of the subject by reading the voluminous correspondences which have from time to time been printed for Parliament, they could not fail to be convinced that successive Governments have proceeded in the matter with the utmost caution and care for the protection and welfare of the emigrants, and that, in effect, their welfare and protection have been thoroughly secured; so that (subject, no doubt, to such casualties of epidemic disease as they have sometimes brought with them on board ship) they have enjoyed all the advantages which they can reasonably have anticipated when they made their choice to try their fortunes in a new country.

It

It is, nevertheless, most material to the future success of the system that every objection which can with any show of reason be raised to it should be carefully and respectfully considered, and, above all, that no differences, even of minor importance, should exist between Her Majesty's Government and the local Legislatures as to the provisions of law by which the system should be guarded.

There are two points and, I think, only two, on which the present Act falls short of the provision for the immigrant's protection which exists in other Colonies, and is found embodied in the Model Law sent out by the Duke of Newcastle, and in the Despatches of my predecessors.

1. The general repealing clause repeals, among other laws (if I rightly understand it), that which confined the duration of contracts made within the Colony to one year; and the Act does not appear to impose any limit to the duration of such contracts in any other section. Such contracts should have been limited in duration to three years.

2. By this Act the Immigration Agent is empowered to cancel any immigrant's contract "who shall have been ill-used by his employers, or, in case of neglect of duty or breach of contract on the part of any employer." The immigration laws of other Colonies contain a power to the Government to cancel the contracts of all immigrants on any estate in case of the employer's misconduct, or if on any other account it shall become necessary. In the 11th, 12th, and 13th sections of the Ordinance proposed by the Duke of Newcastle for general adoption, powers of cancellation are given to the Immigration Agent and the Governor, in divers cases, and to the latter in the comprehensive words, "if on any other ground he shall consider it requisite." Such powers are needed, of course, only to cover the contingency of some extreme case; but it is material that they should exist, if for no other reason, in order that the possibility of such extreme cases may not be made an argument against the system. They cannot be any detriment to the employers at large.

On these two points Her Majesty's Government consider it material that the Act should be amended, and I have to instruct you to apply to the Legislature for an amending Act accordingly. But being of opinion that it would be an ill return to the dispositions shown by the Legislature were I to distrust their willingness to amend the Act upon such points as these, I resisted the applications made to me in Parliament and elsewhere, and have refused not only to disallow the Act, but even to suspend its confirmation until amended.

(signed) *Carnarvon*,
(in the absence of the Secretary of State.)

Appendix, No. 21.

TRINIDAD.—No. 5.—1857 (1st July).

(L. S.)
Robt. W. Keate.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of *Trinidad*, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof, to authorise Contracts of Service for Five Years with Immigrants from certain places, and to give validity to certain Contracts of Service.

BE it enacted by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, that every contract to perform service in this island, made either out of this island or within this island, by any immigrant who shall come into this island from Madeira, the Azores, the Canaries, or the Cape de Verde Islands, or from any part of Europe or of the West Indies, or of the United States, or of the British Provinces of North America, or from any other part or place from which immigration on bounty may have been permitted by any proclamation of the Governor, shall, when approved and countersigned by the Agent General of Immigrants, and subject to such alterations as the said Agent may, with the consent of the parties have made therein, be valid in this Colony for the full period named in such contract not exceeding five years from the day of the arrival of such immigrant in this island, provided that, except as hereinafter mentioned, no such contract shall be so approved and countersigned unless the Agent General of Immigrants shall be satisfied that the immigration has been carried on in accordance with all existing regulations of the Imperial or Colonial Government, and unless such contract, if made in this island, shall be signed by the contracting parties in the presence of such Agent General, or unless the same, if made out of this island, shall purport to have been signed with the names or marks of the contracting parties, and to be attested by some notary public or British Consul, or by some other person approved by or acting under the authority of Her Majesty's Government, who shall declare that the parties entered into it voluntarily, and with a full understanding of its meaning.

Gives validity to certain contracts of service, also power to immigrants from certain places to enter into contracts for service.

Conditions of contract.

2. If the Immigration Agent shall not be so satisfied, or shall find the contract not to be so signed and attested as aforesaid, he shall report the same to the Governor, who may, if he shall think fit, notwithstanding such report, direct the said Immigration Agent to approve and countersign such contract in manner aforesaid.

Provision in case conditions are not complied with.

3. Every such immigrant shall, on the expiration of the third or of the fourth year of such contract, be discharged from further service under such contract, provided that he shall, at least

Immigrant on expiration of third

year may redeem remainder of service by money payment.

least one calendar month before the expiration of such third or fourth year, repay all advances made to him before his arrival in this Colony, and the amount of which shall be specified in his contract of service, and also pay to the Agent General of Immigrants where bounty on, or the passage money of such immigrant, shall have been paid by the Colony or to the owner for the time being, of the plantation on which such immigrant shall be performing his contract of service where the passage money of such immigrant shall have been paid by any private person, the one-fifth part of the amount of such bounty or passage money for every year required to complete five years of service under such contract.

Validity given to certain contracts of service.

4. And whereas certain immigrants were lately brought into this island from the Cape De Verde Islands by the ship "Trym:" and whereas the said immigrants, after their arrival in this island, entered into contracts according to the form in the Schedule to this Ordinance, to work as labourers in agriculture on the plantations mentioned in the said contracts respectively, for the term of five years, determinable at the end of the third or fourth years of such term, on the conditions mentioned in the said contracts: and whereas the said contracts were entered into by the said immigrants respectively, with the approval of, and were executed before, and are signed by the Agent General of Immigrants: Be it enacted that the said contracts shall be and the same are hereby declared to be valid to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

Interpretation of word "immigrant."

5. Every immigrant mentioned in this Ordinance shall be deemed an immigrant within the meaning of the Ordinance passed on the 17th day of November 1854, and entitled, "An Ordinance to Amend and Consolidate the Laws with regard to Immigration," and the provisions of the said Ordinance shall be applicable to every such immigrant and the employer of every such immigrant.

Passed in Council this 1st day of July, in the year of our Lord 1857.

Richard D. Cadiz,
Clerk of Council.

TRINIDAD.

THIS Agreement, made this day of May, in the year of our Lord 1857, between , a native of the Cape De Verde Islands, of the one part, and of the other part. Whereas the said has been brought into this island from St. Jago de Cape De Verde, on board of the ship "Trym," which arrived in this island on the 18th day of this present month of May, under a contract of service made by the said , at St. Jago de Cape de Verde, with Messrs. Visger and George Miller, whereby the said engaged himself to work as a labourer in agriculture or otherwise in this island, for the space of five years from the day of his arrival. It is hereby agreed between the said and the said as follows:

1st. That the said shall work on the plantation , in the ward of , in the said island, for the space of three years from this day, as an agricultural labourer.

2d. That at the end of the said term of three years the said shall be discharged from further service, on payment by him at any time before the expiration of the said term of three years to the said or other person in possession of the said plantation for the time being of the sum of , being two-fifths of the cost of the passage of the said to this island; but if the said shall not make such payment, he shall be considered as having entered into a contract of service on the same plantation for a fourth year, to be computed from the expiry of the former term of three years.

3d. That on the expiration of the said fourth year of service, the said shall be discharged from further service, on payment at any time before the expiration of such fourth year to the said or other person in possession of the said plantation for the time being of the sum of , being one-fifth of the said passage money; but if the said shall not make such last-mentioned payment, he shall be considered as having entered into a contract of service on the same plantation for a fifth year, to be computed from the expiry of the former term of one year.

4th. That the said , or other owner of the said plantation, shall pay to the said wages, at the current rate of wages in the said ward, and shall also supply him, when ill, with medical care and attendance, medicine, and nourishment, and shall also find him sufficient lodging, and allow him a piece of ground for the cultivation of provisions, and shall also provide the said , during the first month from the date of these presents, with reasonable food and nourishment.

Before me,
Henry Mitchell,
Agent General of Immigrants.

Appendix, No. 22.

TRINIDAD.—No. 9.—1857 (21st September). Appendix, No. 22.

(L. S.)
Robt. W. Keate.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of *Trinidad*, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof, for raising Funds in aid of Immigration, for the year 1858.

WHEREAS it is expedient that provision should be made for raising funds in aid of immigration for the year 1858: Be it enacted, by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, that there shall be raised, levied, collected, and paid to Her Majesty upon all produce manufactured in this Colony, and which shall be exported from this Colony on any day between the 1st day of January and the 31st day of December, both inclusive, of the year 1858, and at the time of such exportation, the several duties, rates, and charges hereinafter mentioned (that is to say):—

Upon all *Sugar*.—For every hogshead, 6 *s.*; for every tierce, 4 *s.*; for every barrel, 1 *s.*

Molasses.—For every puncheon, 2 *s.* 6 *d.*; for every tierce, 1 *s.*

Rum.—For every puncheon, 3 *s.* 6 *d.*

Cocoa.—For every 100 lbs., 1 *s.* 3 *d.*

Coffee.—For every 100 lbs., 6 *d.*

2. That for the purposes of this Ordinance every cask whereof the truss shall exceed 29 inches shall be deemed to be a hogshead, and every cask whereof the truss shall be less than 29 inches, but more than 18 inches, shall be deemed to be a tierce; and every cask whereof the truss shall not exceed 18 inches, shall be deemed to be a barrel.

3. That where any such produce shall be exported in any package except those above-mentioned, such duties and charges shall be raised, levied, collected, and paid at the following rates (that is to say) :—

On *Sugar*, at the rate of 4 *s.* for every 1,000 lbs.

On *Molasses*, at the rate of 2 *s.* 6 *d.* for every 100 gallons; and

On *Rum*, at the rate of 4 *s.* for every 100 gallons.

4. That every person exporting any sugar, rum, molasses, cocoa, or coffee, shall deliver to the Receiver General, or other proper officer, a bill of the entry thereof, fairly written, or fairly written in part and fairly printed in part, in words at length, expressing the name of the ship and of the master, and of the place to which such goods are to be exported, and of the person or persons in whose name or names the goods are to be cleared, and the name or names of the consignee or consignees of the said goods, and the quantities and proper denominations or descriptions of the several sorts of goods, together with the number and denominations or description of the respective packages containing the same, and the marks and numbers of such packages; and shall, before the clearance of such ship, pay down all duties which may be due upon the exportation of any such goods, and such person shall also deliver at the same time a duplicate of such bill, in which all sums and numbers may be expressed in figures, and the particulars to be contained in such bill shall be in such form and manner as the said Receiver General shall require, and every person who shall make or deliver a false entry shall forfeit and pay to Her Majesty the sum of 100 *l.*

5. That there shall be paid to the Receiver General by every employer to whom any new immigrant shall be indentured under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 24, of 1854, at any time after the passing of this Ordinance, and before the 1st day of November 1858, the sum of 4 *l.*, in lieu of the sum of 2 *l.* now payable under the said Ordinance, and on every immigrant who during the year 1858 shall, on his own request, be re-indentured for labour to any new employer the sum of 5 *l.* in lieu of the sum of 3 *l.* now payable under the said Ordinance.

6. That all monies to be paid under this Ordinance shall be carried in the books of the Colonial Treasury to the credit of the monies applicable to immigration, and shall be applied in aid of immigration, and to no other purpose whatsoever.

Passed in Council this 21st day of September 1857.

Richard D. Cadiz,
Clerk of Council.

Appendix, No. 23.

Appendix, No. 23.

TRINIDAD.—No. 1.—1858 (12th January).

(L. S.)
Robt. W. Keate.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of *Trinidad*, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof, to repeal a certain part of an Ordinance, entitled "An Ordinance for raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the Year 1858."

WHEREAS an Ordinance was passed in Council on the 21st day of September in the year of our Lord 1857, entitled, "An Ordinance for raising Funds in aid of Immigration, for the year 1858:" And whereas it is expedient to repeal so much of the said Ordinance as provides that the fee on immigrants who during the year 1858 shall be re-indentured at their own request shall be the sum of 5 *l.* in lieu of the sum of 3 *l*: Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, that so much of the said Ordinance as provides "That there shall be paid to the Receiver General on every immigrant who, during the year 1858, shall, on his own request, be re-indentured for labour to any new employer, the sum of 5 *l.* in lieu of the sum of 3 *l.*," shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

Passed in Council this 12th day of January, in the year of our Lord 1858.

Richard D. Cadiz,
Clerk of Council.

Appendix, No. 24.

Appendix, No. 24.

TRINIDAD.—No. 8.—1858 (20th April).

(L. S.)
Robt. W. Keate.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of *Trinidad*, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof, for repealing certain Duties imposed for raising Funds in aid of Immigration.

WHEREAS an Ordinance was passed in Council on the 21st day of September 1857, entitled "An Ordinance for raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the Year 1858:" And whereas the funds to be raised under the said Ordinance were intended to meet the expense of the introduction into this Colony of such Indian immigrants introduced into this Colony in the year 1858 as might exceed the number of 3,000 persons: And whereas the number of immigrants to be introduced into the Colony during the present year will not be equal to 3,000 persons: Be it enacted by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government as follows: That the said Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance for raising Funds for Immigration for the Year 1858," shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

2. That all monies which may have been already paid under the said Ordinance as duties on produce exported from this Colony shall be repaid by the Receiver General on the warrant of the Governor to the several persons by whom such duties may have been so paid, or their executors or administrators.

3. That of every sum of 4 *l.* which may have been paid under the provisions of the said Ordinance by the employer of any immigrant introduced into this Colony and indentured since the passing of the said Ordinance, there shall be repaid by the Receiver General, on the warrant of the Governor, to such employer, or his executors or administrators, the sum of 2 *l.* sterling.

4. That all monies so repaid by the Receiver General shall be carried in the books of the Colonial Treasury to the debit of the monies applicable to immigration.

Passed in Council this 20th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1858.

(signed) *Richard D. Cadiz,*
Clerk of Council.

Appendix, No. 25.

TRINIDAD.—No. 11.—1858 (1st May).

(L. S.)
Robert W. Keate.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of *Trinidad*, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof, for the Encouragement of Immigration from *Trinidad* into *China*.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for the introduction into this Colony of Chinese labourers at the expense of private parties; Be it enacted by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, as follows;

1. Upon the arrival in the Colony of any ship having Chinese labourers on board, the Agent General of Immigrants shall, with the health officer of the port, forthwith proceed on board of such vessel, and with the assistance of such officer shall ascertain by personal inspection of the vessel, and of the passengers therein, and of the emigration papers furnished to the master of the said vessel in pursuance of the "Chinese Passengers Act of 1855," whether the provisions of the said Act have been complied with or not, and shall report to the Governor of the Colony respecting the state of such vessel, and the treatment of the passengers therein, and whether there appear to be any grounds for proceeding against the said vessel, or the master thereof, under the provisions of the said Act, and respecting all other such matters as the Governor may direct.

2. All written contracts for the performance of any labour or service of agriculture in this Colony which shall be made with any Chinese labourer, male or female, who shall have left China or Hong Kong for this Colony between the passing of this Ordinance and the 1st day of April next ensuing, shall be binding on the parties thereto for the period named therein, not exceeding the period of five years, to be computed from the day of the landing of such labourer in Trinidad, provided that the same contracts shall be signed with the names or marks of the contracting parties, or of persons lawfully acting on their behalf, and shall be attested by the Emigration Officer at the port of embarkation, who shall declare that the said labourer signed the same contract voluntarily, and with a due understanding of its effect; Provided also, that every such contract shall conform to the following conditions; namely,

1st. Every such contract shall secure to the labourer making the same the right to receive, in lieu of any fixed wages specified therein, the rate of wages which may from time to time be paid to unindentured labourers working on the estate on which he shall be employed.

2d. Every such contract shall bind the employer to furnish to the labourer, free of charge, suitable lodging, and, when sick, suitable and sufficient medicines, medical attendance, and hospital accommodation.

3d. Every such contract shall be terminable by the labourer party thereto at the expiration of the third year thereof, on payment to the Agent General of Immigrants of 50 dollars, or, at the expiration of the fourth year thereof, on payment of 25 dollars.

4th. Every such contract may bind the labourer to repay to his employer, at such rate, not exceeding one dollar a month, as may be determined by the Governor, any specified sum not exceeding 12 dollars, which may have been advanced to him before leaving China.

3. Every such contract shall, on the arrival of the labourers, be submitted to the Agent General of Immigrants, who shall and may make such alterations therein for the benefit of the labourer as he shall judge necessary to make the same conformable to the above conditions, and shall thereupon record and countersign the same; and no such contract or altered contract shall be binding on any labourer till so countersigned.

4. Such contracts may be made in the form contained in the annexed Schedule, and at the expiration thereof may be renewed for a period not exceeding three years.

5. Every such contract or renewed contract shall be deemed to be an indenture, and during the currency of the same every Chinese labourer shall be deemed to be an immigrant; and service under such indenture or renewed indenture, or the redemption of such service under the second clause of this Ordinance, shall be deemed to be industrial residence within the meaning of the Ordinance No. 24 of 1854, intituled, "An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Laws with regard to Immigration;" and the following sections of the said Ordinance, viz., sections 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 45, 46, 47, shall be taken to apply to all immigrants introduced under this Ordinance, and to the employer of such immigrant, in the same manner as if the said sections were introduced in this Ordinance.

6. If

Appendix, No. 25.

6. If it shall be established before any two justices of the peace, on complaint preferred by any Chinese labourer, that such labourer is not provided by his employer with sufficient work to enable him to earn a just amount of wages under the terms of such contract as aforesaid, such justices of the peace shall declare his contract to be cancelled; and thereupon it shall be lawful for the Governor to cause any labourer whose contract shall have been cancelled under the provisions of this or the above-recited Ordinance, to be indentured to some other employer, on the terms, as near as may be, of the said contract, for a period not exceeding the unexpired period of his term of service, subject to the payment by such employer to the Agent General of Immigrants of such fee as would be payable in respect of an indenture of an Indian immigrant in the like case.

7. All sums received by the Agent General of Immigrants from any Chinese labourer in virtue of the third article of the second section of this Ordinance, shall be paid over by him to the person who may have defrayed the expense of introducing such labourer.

8. In this Ordinance, the words "Agent General of Immigrants" and "Employer" shall have the meanings assigned to them in the said Ordinance No. 24 of 1854.

SCHEDULE (Section 2).

IT is agreed between *A. B.*, Chinese labourer, and *C. D.*, acting on behalf of *E. F.*, proprietor of the plantations X. (and Z.), in the Colony of Trinidad, that *A. B.* shall serve the said *E. F.* on (one of) the said plantation(s) in the growing or manufacturing articles the produce of such plantation, for the term of five years from the day on which *A. B.* shall land in Trinidad: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for *A. B.* to terminate the said agreement at the expiration of three years, on payment of the sum of 50 dollars, or at the end of four years on payment of the sum of 25 dollars. And it is further agreed, that *E. F.* shall pay to *A. B.* the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under contract or indenture working on the same plantation, not being less than at the rate of a day (which wages shall be paid on the last day of every week), and shall supply *A. B.*, free of cost, with suitable lodging, and with such medicines and medical attendance and hospital accommodation as *A. B.* may need when sick. And it is further agreed, that if the said plantation shall come into the possession of any other person than the said *E. F.*, *A. B.* shall be bound to serve such other person, if required to do so, on the same plantation and on the above terms. And it is further agreed, that *E. F.* may deduct from the wages of *A. B.*, at the rate of one dollar a month, the total sum of (not more than 12) dollars, which *A. B.* acknowledges himself to have received in advance before leaving China.

Passed in Council this 1st day of May, in the year of our Lord 1858.

Richard D. Cadiz,
Clerk of Council.

Appendix, No. 26.

Appendix, No. 26.

TRINIDAD.—No. 17.—1858 (11th September).

(L. S.)
Robt. W. Keate.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of *Trinidad*, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof, for raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the Year 1859.

WHEREAS it is expedient that provision should be made for raising funds in aid of immigration for the year 1859 to meet the expense of the passage to this Colony of such Indian immigrants beyond the number of 2,200 adult persons as may be introduced between the passing of this Ordinance and the 1st day of November 1859; Be it enacted by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, as follows:

1. There shall be paid to the Receiver General by every employer to whom any Indian immigrant arriving in this Colony after the passing of this Ordinance shall be indentured, under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 24 of 1854, at any time before the 1st day of November 1859, the sum of 4*l.* 10*s.* in lieu of the sum of 2*l.* now payable under the said Ordinance.

2. All monies to be paid under this Ordinance shall be carried, in the books of the Colonial Treasury, to the credit of the monies applicable to immigration, and shall be applied in aid of immigration, and to no other purpose whatsoever.

3. If

3. If the number of Indian immigrants introduced into this Colony between the passing of this Ordinance and the 1st day of November 1859 shall not exceed 2,200 adult persons, then in such case the sum of 2*l.* 10*s.* for every immigrant, in respect of whom such sum of 4*l.* 10*s.* shall have been paid under this Ordinance, shall be repaid, from and out of the Colonial Treasury to the person by whom the same shall have been paid, his executors or administrators. Appendix, No. 26.

Passed in Council this 11th day of September, in the Year of our Lord 1858.

(signed) *Richard D. Cadiz,*
Clerk of Council.

Appendix, No. 27.

TRINIDAD.—No. 23—1858 (1st November). Appendix, No. 27.

(L.S.)
Robt. W. Keate.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of *Trinidad*, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof, for the Apprenticing of Children.

BE it enacted by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government as follows:

1. It shall be lawful for the father of any child being above the age of nine years, or in case such child has no father, for the mother of such child, or in case such child has no father or mother then for the person having the charge of and maintaining such child by writing to be signed by such child to bind any such child to be an apprentice in trade, to be taught any trade, craft, art, or mystery, for any term not less than four years, or more than seven years, determinable in every case upon such child attaining the age of 21 years, or in the case of a female, upon her being married, and such contract shall be as effectual to all intents and purposes as if such child being of full age by deed of covenant had bound himself or herself. Father or mother of child may by writing bind such child apprentice to any trade, craft, &c.

2. It shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace upon the request either of the father, or in case there is no father, then of the mother, or in case there is no father or mother, then of the person having the charge of and maintaining any child, being above the age of nine years, or upon the request of any child being above the age of 11 years, if the stipendiary justice of the peace shall see fit and convenient to bind any such child to be an apprentice in trade to any person to be taught any trade, craft, art, or mystery, for any term not less than four years or more than seven years, determinable in every case upon such child attaining the age of 21 years, or in the case of a female child, upon her being married, and such stipendiary justice shall prescribe the terms and conditions to be contained in the indenture by which any such child may be so bound as apprentice, and every master of such apprentice who wilfully refuses or neglects to perform any of such terms or conditions so contained in any such indenture, shall be liable upon conviction thereof before any justice of the peace to forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 *l.* Stipendiary Justice may upon request bind any child apprentice to any trade, craft, &c.

3. It shall and may be lawful for any master or mistress of any such apprentice as aforesaid, with the consent of the father (or if there be no father, then with the consent of the mother), where such apprentice be under the age of 15 years, or with the consent of such apprentice where such apprentice shall be above the age of 15 years, but in all cases with the authority of the stipendiary justice of the district where such apprentice was originally bound by indorsement on the indenture of apprenticeship, or by other instrument in writing, to assign such apprentice to any person who is willing to take such apprentice for the residue of the term mentioned in such indenture of apprenticeship: Provided always, that such person to whom such apprentice is intended to be assigned shall at the same time by indorsement on the counterpart of such indenture or by writing under his or her hand, stating the indenture of apprenticeship, and the indorsement and consent aforesaid, declare his or her acceptance of such apprentice, and acknowledge himself or herself, his or her executors and administrators to be bound by the agreements and covenants mentioned in the said indenture on the part of the master or mistress of such apprentice to be done and performed, and in such case such apprentice shall be deemed and taken to be the apprentice of such subsequent master or mistress to whom such assignment shall have been made to all intents and purposes whatsoever, and so from time to time as often as any such apprentice shall be assigned. Master or mistress of apprentice may by indorsement on indenture assign such apprentice to any other person.

4. In case of the death of any master or mistress of any apprentice during the term of such apprenticeship, the covenant for maintenance of such apprentice contained in the indenture of apprenticeship by which such apprentice shall have been bound, shall not continue and be in force during any longer time than three calendar months next after the death of such master or mistress, and that during such three calendar months such apprentice shall continue to live with and serve as an apprentice the executors and administrators Covenant for maintenance in indenture of apprenticeship not to continue in force for more than three months after death of master or mistress.

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of such master or mistress, or some or one of them, or such person or persons as such executors or administrators, or some or one of them shall appoint: and the master or mistress whom such apprentice shall accordingly serve during the said three calendar months, and also such apprentice shall during that time be subject and liable to all the laws which are or shall be in force for the better government and regulation of masters and apprentices.

Within such three months Stipendiary Justice may by indorsement on indenture assign apprentice to any person being part of the family of late master or mistress.

5. Within such three calendar months after the death of such master or mistress, it shall and may be lawful for such stipendiary justice of the peace of the place where such master or mistress shall have died, on application made to him by the widow of such master, or by the husband of such mistress, or by any son or daughter, brother or sister, or by any executor or executrix, administrator, or administratrix of such master or mistress, by indorsement on any such indenture of apprenticeship, or the counterpart thereof, or by any other instrument in writing, to order and direct that such apprentice shall serve as an apprentice any one of such persons so making such application as aforesaid (such person having lived with and having been part of the family of such master or mistress at the time of his or her death) as the said justice shall in his discretion think fit, for and during the residue of the term mentioned in such indenture of apprenticeship; and the person obtaining such order shall declare his acceptance of such apprentice by subscribing his or her name to such order; and from and after the making of such order, the executors and administrators, and the personal assets, estate and effects of the master or mistress so dying as aforesaid, shall be released and discharged of and from any promise or covenant whatsoever contained in any such indenture of apprenticeship on the part of such master or mistress, his or her executors or administrators, to be done and performed; and the person obtaining the same shall be, and be deemed and taken to be the master or mistress of such apprentice in like manner as if such apprentice had been originally bound to such person; and such last-mentioned master or mistress, his or her executors and administrators shall be held and bound by the several promises and covenants contained in any such indenture of apprenticeship on the part of the master or mistress therein named, his or her executors or administrators, to be done and performed in like manner as if such master or mistress obtaining such order as aforesaid had duly executed the counterpart of such indenture; and such master or mistress and apprentice shall be subject and liable to the several penalties, provisions, and regulations which may be in force for the better government and good order of masters and apprentices.

In certain cases at the expiration of said three months indenture to expire.

6. In case no such application shall be made as aforesaid within three calendar months next after the death of such master or mistress, or in case such stipendiary justice shall not think fit that such apprenticeship should be continued, then the apprenticeship shall be determined and the indenture of apprenticeship and the covenants therein contained shall be at an end, in like manner as they would have been at the expiration of the term therein mentioned.

Stipendiary Justice may, upon proof of ill-treatment, &c., of apprentice, cancel indenture.

7. It shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice, if it shall be made to appear to his satisfaction that the master or mistress of any apprentice is guilty of habitual ill-treatment of his or her apprentice, or repeated neglect or violation of any of the conditions of the indenture of apprenticeship, to cancel the indenture of apprenticeship of such apprentice, and in every such case such stipendiary justice shall grant a certificate under his hand of such indenture having been cancelled, which certificate shall be entered in the books of the stipendiary justice of the district in which such apprentice was originally bound, and in any such case it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice to bind such apprentice to some other person for a term equal to the unexpired term of his original service.

Stipendiary Justice to cause apprentices to be registered as in Schedule A.

8. Every such stipendiary justice shall cause all apprentices so bound by him to be registered by the clerk of the peace in a book to be kept by such clerk, in which book shall be entered the name of every such child, together with the several other particulars in manner and form required by this Ordinance according to the Schedule (A.) hereunto annexed, and each such entry shall be signed by such stipendiary justice.

Assignments of apprentices to be registered.

9. Whenever any such apprentice shall be assigned, the stipendiary justice shall insert the name and residence of the master or mistress to whom such apprentice shall be so assigned, together with the other particulars in the book or books herein directed to be kept for that purpose by such stipendiary justice.

Books of registry open to inspection, &c.

10. It shall and may be lawful for any person or persons at all seasonable hours to inspect such books, and to take a copy of any entry in such book or books, and a copy of such entry certified under the hand of the stipendiary justice of the district in which the original entry is made shall be and be deemed to be sufficient evidence in all courts whatsoever in proof of the existence of such indentures, and also of the several particulars specified in the said register respecting such indentures, in case it shall be proved to the satisfaction of such court that the said indentures are lost or have been destroyed.

Fees in Schedule B. to be taken.

11. The fees mentioned in the Schedule (B.) hereunto annexed shall and may be taken by the stipendiary justice, and such fees shall be paid by him from time to time into the Colonial Treasury.

Passed in Council this 1st day of November, in the year of our Lord 1858.

Charles F. Cadiz, Acting Clerk of Council.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Number.	Date of Indenture.	Name of the Apprentice.	Sex.	Age.	His or her Parents' Names.	Their Residence.	Name of Persons to whom bound or assigned (*as the case may be*).	His or her Trade.	His or her Residence.	Term of the Apprenticeship or Assignment.	Stipendiary Justice assenting.	Date of Cancelment.
											To be signed by Stipendiary Justice.	

SCHEDULE (B.)

	£.	s.	d.
For any original indenture - - - - - - -	-	2	6
For every assignment of apprenticeship - - - - - -	-	1	-
For every indorsement on the indenture of apprenticeship or the counterpart thereof - - - - - - - -	-	1	-
For every certified copy of any entry - - - - - -	-	2	6

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TRINIDAD.—No. 13—1859 (6th April).

(L. S.)
Robt. W. Keate.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of Trinidad, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Council of Government thereof, to encourage the formation of Contracts for further terms of Industrial Residence by Immigrants.

WHEREAS an Ordinance was passed in Council on the ninth day of March, in the Year 1855, entitled "An Ordinance to encourage immigrants to enter into contracts for further terms of industrial residence, and to confirm certain agreements of service already entered into by immigrants." And whereas the provisions of the said Ordinance are limited to Indian immigrants, introduced into the Colony at any time before the 1st day of January 1854. And it is expedient to encourage the formation of contracts for further terms of industrial residence by all immigrants who may have already been introduced, or may hereafter be introduced into the Colony at the public expense: Be it enacted by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, as follows:—

1. When and so often as any immigrant who may have already been introduced, or may hereafter be introduced into the Colony at the public expense, and who shall have already completed, or shall hereafter complete, an industrial residence of five years within this Colony, shall be willing to enter into any engagement to labour for any employer, it shall be lawful for the Agent General of Immigrants from time to time, if he shall see fit, and on payment to such immigrant by such employer of such premium or bounty, if any, as may be agreed upon between such immigrant and such employer, to indenture such immigrant to such employer for such time, not exceeding 12 calendar months, as may be agreed upon between such immigrant and such employer, and every such indenture may be according to the form in the Schedule to this Ordinance.

2. Every indenture to be made under the authority of this Ordinance shall be deemed and taken to be an indenture, and every immigrant who shall be so indentured, shall, during the continuance of the term mentioned in such indenture, be deemed and taken to be an indentured immigrant within the meaning of any Ordinance with regard to immigration which may from time to time be in force.

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3. The Agent General of Immigrants shall enter in the Register of Immigrants under separate heads, the name and sex of every Indian immigrant whom such Agent General shall indenture under the provisions of this Ordinance, and the name of the vessel by which,

Shri Brihad Bhartiya Samaj
on 24 February, 2020

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and the time at which such immigrant shall have been introduced into this Colony, and the day on which and the time for which such indenture shall be made.

4. Every indenture purporting to be made by the Agent General of Immigrants, under the authority of this Ordinance, and which shall be signed by the Agent General of Immigrants, shall be received in evidence before all Courts and Justices of the Peace without further proof of the execution of the same by the Agent General, and as *primâ facie* proof of the facts stated therein, and it shall not be necessary in any case to prove the signature of such Agent General to any such indenture.

Passed in Council this 6th day of April, in the Year of our Lord 1859.

Richard D. Cadiz,
Clerk of Council.

TRINIDAD.

THIS indenture, made the day of 185 , between Agent General of Immigrants of this Colony, on behalf of Indian immigrant, No. , introduced into this Colony at the public expense, of the one part, and of in this Colony of the other part: Witnesseth, that in virtue of Ordinance No. of 1859, and in consideration of the agreement on the part of the said hereinafter contained, he the said doth hereby bind and indenture the said to the said for the term of one year to be computed from the date hereof, and doth hereby agree with the said his heirs and assigns, that the said shall, during the said term truly and faithfully serve the said his heirs and assigns, as a labourer on Plantation according to the laws and regulations made, or hereafter to be made, concerning immigrant labourers in this Colony. And the said doth hereby agree with the said that he the said his heirs and assigns, shall, during the said term, provide the said with suitable and sufficient lodging, medicine and medical attendance, in conformity with the laws and regulations made, or hereafter to be made, concerning immigrant labourers in this Colony, and also will pay wages monthly to the said at the same rate which may be at the time paid to the labourers not under a written engagement working on the said plantation.

(signed)

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TRINIDAD:—No. 14.—1859 (6th April.)

(L.S.)
Robt. W. Keate.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of Trinidad, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Council of Government thereof, to facilitate the introduction of Indian Immigrants at the expense of private persons.

WHEREAS it is expedient to facilitate the introduction into the Colony, at the expense of private individuals, of Indian immigrants in excess of those who may be introduced from year to year at the public charge: Be it enacted by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, as follows:

1. Whenever any person shall be desirous of having any Indian immigrants introduced into the Colony for the particular service, and at the expense of such person, it shall be lawful for the Governor on application in writing, by or on the behalf of such person, and on security being given by or on behalf of such person to the satisfaction of the Governor for the payment of the expenses to be incurred in the introduction of such immigrants, to make order for the introduction of such immigrants in addition to the number of Indian immigrants to be introduced at the public charge.

2. Every person on whose application any Indian immigrants shall be introduced, shall on the arrival of such immigrants pay into the Colonial Treasury, the amount payable by the Government for the passage of such immigrants, including such children as shall accompany such immigrants, and also a further sum at the rate of three pounds for every statute adult as the costs of agency, and other expenses in the collection and introduction of such immigrants.

3. On such payment being made, the immigrants who shall have been so introduced, shall be indentured to the employer for whose service they shall have been introduced, and in respect of such plantation or plantations as shall be appointed by or on behalf of such employer; and every such immigrant shall be deemed an Indian immigrant within the meaning of the Ordinance No. 24 of 1854 and shall be bound to a service of three years on

the